Hafa Adai!

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OPINION METER

This week's poll:
How often do you visit the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

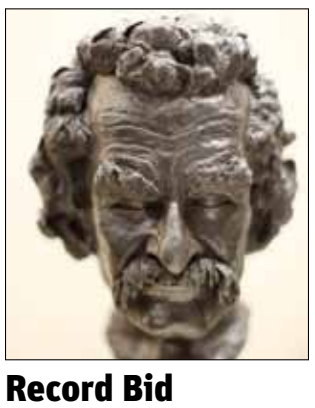
INSIDE

Catfight
Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer is angry over comments by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

NATION...Page 10

Minerals-Rich
Afghanistan has one the world's largest iron ore deposits and has at least $3 trillion in untapped minerals.

ASIA...Page 12



Record Bid
Mark Twain's never published "A Family Sketch" sells at auction for $242,500.

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Dialogues on Guam military buildup starts today. PAGE 3

MPLT, CDA asked for $8M

» Benavente says delayed paychecks 'irresponsible'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Acting Gov. Eloy S. Inos said yesterday that he asked the Marianas Public Land Trust and the Commonwealth Development Authority on Thursday to provide $4 million each, or a total of $8 million, to help the government pay employees' salaries.

Most government officials and employees did not receive their paychecks during yesterday's payday be-

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Dismay grips govt employees

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Government employees—both who got their paychecks yesterday and those who did not—feel bad and are dismayed about the delay in the release of salaries, saying it will affect not just bringing food to the table but also keeping a roof over their heads, paying for bills, and meeting bank and credit card obligations.

The payless payday, a first time in CNMI history, drew mixed reactions from government personnel as well as other people.

"There's nothing we can do about it. We just have to face the reality," a court employee who requested anonymity told *Saipan Tribune*.

The court staff said she's not mad about the delayed paychecks, but she feels for those people who live check to check.

Another government employee who has a child said she is more worried about the next payday. "It's very

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HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

PRAYER FOR THE WAR DEAD
Buddhist monks and others from the True Buddha School Purple Lotus Temple in California pray for those who perished during World War II on Saipan, at a ceremony yesterday morning at Banzaii Cliff in Marpi.

Local

PUBLIC SCHOOLS END CLASSES YESTERDAY

PSS promotes over 1,400 elementary, kindergarten students

Over 1,400 elementary students and kindergarteners on three islands were promoted to the next level with the end of the school year yesterday. Over 600 were kindergarten enrollees in 12 elementary schools and nearly 700 were sixth graders.

A total of 52 fifth graders from Sinapalo Elementary School on Rota and 100 fifth graders from Kagman Elementary School on Saipan will be transferring to Chacha Oceanview Junior High and Rota Junior High School for their sixth grade. The two schools could only accommodate up to fifth grade.

Among elementary schools, Garapan had the highest number of promoted students this year: 135 sixth graders and 90 kindergarten students.

Garapan Elementary School vice principal Paulette Sablan said the top award—the Principal's Award—went to Lee Ann Jastilliana. Twenty-nine students were also awarded the President's Education Excellence Award while 10 got the President's Academic Achievement Awards.

Dandan Elementary School promoted 74 sixth graders and 64 kindergarten students. It named Melisha Lizama as the school Principal's Awardee while Lance Deleon Guerrero got the Tottot Award, equivalent to the second top honor. Other students on the Top 10 list were Orlando Santos, Martin Kapileo, Margaret Kintol, Bernadette You, Kyle Flores, and Ayana Ongelungel. The school also handed out other recognitions such as athletes of the year, A-honor roll and B-honor roll as well as winners of school's essay and speech competitions.

In San Vicente Elementary School, 97 sixth graders were promoted to middle school while 59 kindergarten students are now ready for first grade. San Vicente conducted a simple awarding ceremony on campus where it bestowed recognitions such as A and B honor rolls and perfect attendance awards.

Kagman Elementary School promoted 100 fifth graders and 68 kindergarten kids this year. Top awards were given to Britney Hamilton and Audrey Rose Camacho—who got the Principal's and Vice Principal's Awards respectively. The Peacebuilder Award was given to Tara Tudela while Top 10 awards went to Hamilton, Camacho, Kycel Butters, Kloe Borja, Riana Nauta, Iramhel Talon, Mildred Seman, Shanaia Rabauliman, Nikela Masayos, and Kelena Saures.

Kagman Elementary principal Ignacia Demapan said this year's number of promoted students is one of the lowest in many years.

Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School principal Charlotte Camacho said 33 sixth graders and 28 kindergarten enrollees were promoted this week. The school's highest academic honors went to Alexander Litilumar and Patrick Agustin. On the Top Ten list were Litilumar, Agustin, Angela Aninon, Arianne Nervaez, Emmanuel Bulaklak, Pauline Sasamoto, Kisha Santos, Neil Sama, Elizabeth Basa, Richelle Castro, Allanah Fernandez, Vicente Agulto Jr., and Kimberly Camacho.

William S. Reyes Elementary School principal Lynnette Villagomez also announced the promotion of 87 sixth graders and 89 kindergarten kids from her school.

In Tanapag Elementary, 26 sixth graders and 29 kindergarten climbed to the next level in their education. The school gave Kadi Camacho and Ana Lieto its top honors this year and recognized three other students on the Top Five overall list: Jessa Mae Camacho, Alex Matthew Gablinez, and Travis Jude Kaliga.

San Antonio Elementary School teacher Rita Carreon said all of the school's 51 sixth graders and 40 kindergartners were promoted in a ceremony

See PSS on next page

TOP HONORS

WILLIAM S. REYES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Principal's award: Masrur Alam, Dianne Marie Pablo, Roselyn Tanghal
Kingfisher's award: Mikhail Alcantara, Fariha Omar
Peacebuilder's award: Masrur Alam

DANDAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Principal's award: Melisha Lizama
Tottot award: Lance Deleon Guerrero
Top 8 Overall: Orlando Santos, Martin Kapileo, Margaret Kintol, Bernadette You, Kyle Flores, Ayana Ongelungel

GREGORIO T. CAMACHO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Principal's award: Alexander Litilumar
Vice-Principal's award: Patrick Agustin
Top Ten award: Alexander Litilumar, Patrick Agustin, Angela Aninon, Arianne Nervaez, Emmanuel Bulaklak, Pauline Sasamoto, Kisha Santos, Neil Sama, Elizabeth Basa, Richelle Castro, Allanah Fernandez, Vicente Agulto Jr., Kimberly Camacho

GARAPAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Principal's award: Lee Ann Jastilliana

TINIAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Principal's award: Odorico San Nicolas
Vice-Principal's award: Mikaela San Nicolas
Top 10 award: Odori San Nicolas, Mikaela San Nicolas, Sereima Sanchez, Gizelle Kwon, Zacariah Hofschneider, Hye Rin Kim, Keshaun Nabors, Jose Roberts, Luis Hofschneider, Lawrenn Mendiola , Rebecca Untalan

TANAPAG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Principal's award: Kadi Y. Camacho
Vice-Principal's award: Ana M. Lieto
Top Five: Jessa Mae F. Camacho, Kadi Marshal Y. Camacho, Alex Matthew S. Gablinez, Travis Jude N. Kaliga, Ana M. Lieto

KAGMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Principal's award: Britney Hamilton
Vice-Principal's award: Audrey Rose Camacho
Peacebuilder award: Tara Tudela
Top 10 award: Britney Hamilton, Audrey Rose Camacho, Kycel Butters, Kloe Borja, Riana Nauta, Iramhel Talon, Mildred Seman, Shanaia Rabauliman, Nikela Masayos, Kelena Saures

KOBLERVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Principal's award: Terrence Blanca

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E-mail: procurement@nmcnet.edu, Website: www.nmcnet.edu

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP 10-004
Litigation and Legal Counseling Services

Northern Marianas College is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for litigation and legal counseling services for the institution. Specifications and Scope of Work packages may be picked up at the **NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, commencing Wednesday, June 16, 2010 between the hours of 8: 30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.**

Proposal Packages are due no later than 4:00 p.m., July 14, 2010, Saipan time at the Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Saipan, MP 96950. Article 7, **"Local Business Preference"**, as amended by Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, **is available to local vendors** in this procurement. **For Proposers located outside of the CNMI:** You may request a copy of the RFP via fax (670) 235-7601 or e-mail to Anita Camacho (anitac@nmcnet.edu).

All Proposers are hereby notified that the Northern Marianas College will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, national origin, political affiliation, creed, sex, religion, age, familial status, and disability status.

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The NMC reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals for any reason and waive any defect in said proposals, or cancel in part or its entirety this RFP, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College. All costs incurred by the proposer to prepare a response this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the proposer. All submittals shall become the property of NMC and will not be returned.

Approved by the following:

/ss/Anita Camacho
NMC Procurement Manager

/ss/Barbara K. Merfalen
NMC, Acting Interim President

Series of CNMI dialogues on Guam military buildup starts today

As a public outreach effort, the Office of Economic Adjustment and the Military Integration Management Committee will be conducting Community Outreach Dialogue sessions on Saipan today, June 19, and on Tinian and Rota in succeeding days.

The goal of the outreach sessions is to inform the public of the roles each of these agencies has regarding the military buildup and to hear concerns of citizens.

"In response to comments received from public hearings on the JGPO EIS forums regarding the military buildup, this collaborative effort from the MIMC, OEA and the Governor's Office should show that we are sincere in making sure we bring more information to the public on issues surrounding the military buildup in the Marianas. I will strive to make sure we continue to be as transparent as possible on these issues and I hope the public will be able to participate and come over to either just listen, ask questions, and get a better understanding of each agencies role," said Tom Linden, MIMC coordinator.

The schedule for the Community Outreach Dialogues is as follows:

- Saturday, June 19, at 2pm at the Multipurpose Center in Susupe;
- Monday, June 21, at 1:30pm on Rota at the Roundhouse in Songsong Village; and
- Tuesday, June 22, at 10am at the Tinian Public Library.

OEA is the Department of Defense's primary source for assisting communities that are adversely impacted by Defense program changes, including base closures or realignments, base expansions, and contract or program cancellations. OEA offers technical and financial assistance to adversely impacted communities, and coordinates the involvement of other Federal Agencies through the Defense Economic Adjustment Program and the President's Economic Adjustment Committee.

The MIMC was created as the planning and policy-making entity for all activities that relate to the expansion of military training activities to CNMI resulting from the United States Pacific Command's initiative known as the "Integrated Global Presence and Basing Strategy," the United States' and the Government of Japan's "Roadmap for Realignment Implementation," and other defense transformation initiatives in CNMI and Guam.

The CNMI-MIMC is the official entity through which the CNMI will interface with the Department of the Navy, United States Marine Corps, Joint Guam Program Office and other Department of Defense units. ***(PR)***

Court drops flying voter charge vs woman

The Superior Court has dismissed the case against a woman who was accused of being a flying voter.

In a bench trial Wednesday afternoon, associate judge David Wiseman dismissed the complaint charging Barcelisa Anastasia Saures Inos with unlawful registration.

Wiseman dismissed the case based on the testimony presented by the government's witnesses and assistant attorney general Brian Gallagher's motion to dismiss.

Assistant public defender Richard Miller served as Inos' counsel.

According to the charging information, on Sept. 12, 2009, Inos signed an affidavit of registration knowing that she did not quality to vote and register in an election district in which she did not reside. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Man pleads guilty to beating household member

A man charged with assaulting a female household member for an imagined infidelity has pleaded guilty and was given a suspended six-month sentence.

Adawayne Takawo Moses, 28, agreed to plead guilty to disturbing the peace as part of a plea bargain. In exchange, all other charges were dismissed.

Superior Court Associate Judge David Wiseman sentenced Moses to six months in prison, all suspended, except for one day, with credit for the one day he had already served in jail.

Moses was placed on supervised probation and required to perform 30 hours of community service and pay a $25 court assessment fee, restitution to the victim, and probation fee.

The judge noted that Moses has no criminal history.

"[Moses] has already attended counseling and has entered into other corrective and positive actions of rehabilitation," he said.

Moses was ordered to continue participating in any aftercare component of the various counseling programs he attended as a condition of his pre-conviction bail release.

The Office of the Attorney General had charged Moses with two counts of disturbing the peace, and two counts of assault and battery.

Moses reportedly assaulted a female household member on July 12, 2009, over an alleged infidelity. He also allegedly pushed the victim on Aug. 8, 2009, causing minor injuries. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

PSS

From Page 2

this week, with students in both A and B honor rolls recognized for their hard work.

Tinian Elementary School acting vice principal Dionne Santos said 40 sixth graders and 27 kindergartners were promoted this year. Top students included Odorico San Nicolas, Mikaela San Nicolas, Sereima Sanchez, Gizelle Kwon, Zacariah Hofschneider, Hye Rin Kim, Keshaun Nabors, Jose Roberts, Luis Hofschneider, and Lawrenn Mendiola and Rebecca Untalan.

Sinapalo Elementary recorded 52 sixth graders and 35 kindergarten kids who were promoted this year while Oleai Elementary had 77 sixth graders and 58 kindergartners.

THANK YOU MESSAGE

We would like to extend our most sincere appreciation to the individuals who in one way or another helped us achieved the

Medical Fundraising

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THOMAS MASGA DELEON GUERRERO

last June 3rd, 2010 held at the 4H Club Building in Civic Center.

Thank you all for your generous support.

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Acting Gov. Eloy S. Inos, seated-center, is flanked by youth leaders and personnel at the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs and the Division of Youth Services right after signing yesterday a proclamation declaring for the first time June to August "Youth Leadership Months."

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Inos declares first Youth Leadership Months

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Acting Gov. Eloy S. Inos called on for the strengthening of youth leadership as he signed a proclamation yesterday declaring for the first time June to August Youth Leadership Months.

"Youth leadership can be successfully achieved when our youths receive the nurturance, support and training they need, thus sharing their expertise and leadership skills in the decision making process for the planning and implementation of programs and policies affecting the youth and communities," Inos said.

Youth leaders and officials of the Division of Youth Services and the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs witnessed the proclamation signing held in the governor's conference room on Capital Hill yesterday morning.

DCCA Secretary Melvin Faisao, for his part, said training must take place at an early age "to produce a society of successful community youth leaders."

He called for the full cooperation of parents, schools, communities, and leaders to support the youth through youth leadership and empowerment activities.

"To all of you youth present today, I challenge you all to be models to other youths and you, the youth leaders, are the most powerful source of influence and mentors to empower your peers," Faisao said during the brief proclamation signing.

Activities

Rachel F. Deleon Guerrero, a youth leader, gave a rundown of the activities slated in observance of Youth Leadership Months, kicked off by the proclamation signing.

She said youth organizations will be joining the 2010 Liberation Day Parade on July 4. They will be marching with the DYS float.

A youth leadership camp will be held from July 19 to 31 at the Kagman Community Center, from 8am to 11:30am. This is open to those who are aged 6 to 13, with an insurance coverage of $5 per camp.

A second youth leadership camp will be held from Aug. 2 to 20 at the Ada Gymnasium in Susupe also from 8am to 11:30am. Eligible to join are those who are 6 to 13 years old, with an insurance coverage of $5 per camp.

Registration forms for these youth leadership camps are available at the Tanapag Youth Center, the DYS main office, the Arts Council, or the Ada Gymnasium. For more information, contact Vivian Sablan or Tony Mareham at 664-2550 or 322-4673.

The youth leadership camp is open to the first 200 participants at each camp site. Registration deadline is July 2.

There will also be youth nominee recognition at the Ada Gym camp. Youth nominees from schools and youth organizations will be awarded and nominees will be working closely with DYS as a liaison for other youth in the community on DYS or community sponsored events.

A youth bowling league will also be held in August.

MPLT

From Page 1

cause of insufficient funds. They will have to wait until Tuesday or Wednesday to get paid.

House Minority Leader Diego T. Benavente (R-Saipan) described the delay as "irresponsible" and "negligent."

"I think it's negligent on the part of the administration to wait this long. They should have met with the Legislature last week, not two days before the payday," Benavente said in an interview.

Benavente, a former lieutenant governor, said many government employees in the CNMI live paycheck to paycheck.

"And that means there may not be food on the table for days," he said.

Had the Fitial administration reduced the quarterly allotment at the start of Fiscal Year 2010, and not waited until after two quarters had already passed, then the financial situation won't be this severe, he said.

He said the blame should not be on the defeat of the austerity bill that sought to reduce work hours by 10 per pay period, from 80 to 70.

"And the Legislature was jumping yesterday to pass the reprogramming bill, thinking that people would get their paychecks today [Friday]. That didn't happen. We had a payless payday," he added.

Inos held meetings yesterday morning with officials of MPLT and CDA about his request for funds. The request was sent after Inos signed on Thursday a bill giving the governor the authority to reprogram up to $10 million in Fiscal Year 2010 for payroll.

MPLT board of trustees vice chair Alvaro Santos said MPLT responded positively to Inos' request for help, and looked at two options to do this.

"The first one is by extending the previous loan, two years ago, to CUC [Commonwealth Utilities Corp.]. That's $3.5 million paid off this year. CUC has been punctual in its payment. It's creditworthy. The second option is buy part of CUC assets. MPLT will assume some of the government's debt to CUC," Santos told *Saipan Tribune* after emerging from a meeting with Inos in the governor's conference room.

Santos and two other MPLT board trustees—former speaker Pedro R. Deleon Guerrero and Gregoria F. Omar—met with Inos. The acting governor also met with CDA executive director Manuel Sablan.

"It's looking good. We're not going nickel and dime on this thing. We're not going to bleed to death. Looks like they're [MPLT and CDA] willing to help. That's a good sign," Inos said in an interview later.

He said the Department of Public Lands had already coughed up $2.5 million, right after Gov. Benigno R. Fitial declared a state of emergency for the CNMI as CUC was about to run out of fuel for its power plants.

"It's a matter of whether or not funds are available out there. We are talking about funds that are actually available, and not obligated or encumbered… We don't have to take or reprogram $10 million, because $10 million is only the cap. We're getting only what we need for payroll," Inos added.

The acting governor reiterated that most government paychecks will be received middle of next week.

"Everything that we do today will be preliminary. Assuming we agree with these agencies, it would take between 24 and 48 hours to transact whatever instruments that they have, converting them into cash, pumping into the general fund. Until the funds hit our bank account… we do not plan on issuing checks," he added.

The government needs some $3 million each pay period to pay for salaries. However, it was only able to collect some $1.5 million in time for yesterday's payday, just enough to pay close to 1,000 police officers, corrections officers, firefighters, doctors, nurses and other critical positions directly involved in public safety and patient care.

Also exempted were government employees whose positions are funded by the federal government, as well as employees at the Public School System.

'Doing fine'

Inos has been the acting governor since early Sunday morning when Gov. Benigno R. Fitial left for medical treatment in Manila, Philippines. Fitial is expected to be back this weekend.

Despite the stresses of recent days in finding money to pay for government salaries, Inos said he is "doing fine."

"It's not one of those pleasant things but you know, we're in this position, it comes with the territory," Inos said when asked how he has been holding up the past few days.

During an emergency Cabinet meeting on Thursday, Inos said "the day of reckoning has arrived," as he announced the delayed release of most government paychecks.

Officials said this is the first time in CNMI history that government personnel experienced a delay in the release of their salaries.

Ignacio Demapan, resident executive director for the Indigenous Affairs Office, said Inos has the ability to address the government's current financial crisis. Inos is a former secretary of Finance.

PAYCHECK

From Page 1

upsetting especially to the people who have families," she said.

She said not receiving a paycheck is hard because parents have to think about how to feed their children and pay for their bills.

Local courts marshal Froilan M. Camacho, who got his paycheck yesterday because his position is federally funded, still feels bad about what is going on.

"It's not fair to others because we work together," Camacho said.

He said not receiving a paycheck is difficult because the prices of everything are going up—gasoline, power, food.

Camacho suggested for the Fitial administration to enforce austerity Fridays again because it is a better option than for employees to not get paid at all.

An employee of a private company said he feels sorry to those who have credit card debts to pay. "Some will end up for sure paying late charges," said the employee, who identified himself only as Juan.

One private sector employee said her partner, a government employee, was forced to go to a local bank to plead for a few days' extension on the payment of a loan due to the paycheck delay.

A food vendor said her collection yesterday was really down because only a few government employees paid her; most told her to come back either on Tuesday or Wednesday.

Only about 1,000 government personnel received their paychecks on time. They are police officers, corrections officers, firefighters, doctors, nurses and other critical positions directly involved in public safety and patient care.

The rest are expected to get their paychecks this coming Tuesday or Wednesday.

Another $200K to be available for NMI home weatherizations

WASHINGTON, D.C.—U.S. Rep. Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan informed Gov. Benigno Fitial on Thursday to expect another $201,976 in funding for weatherization of homes in the Northern Mariana Islands. The money comes from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and should provide energy-saving upgrades for another 50 homes.

"The home weatherization program is helping people, who might not otherwise be able to afford it, to make their homes more energy efficient," said Sablan. "It helps lower their CUC bills. So I'm very glad that we are getting about a 25-percent increase over the original $795,206 that we got for weatherizations from the Recovery Act. More people will now get money to improve their homes and lower their utility bills."

In March this year NMI families began benefiting from the Weatherization Program. The first household, in Garapan, received a free refrigerator, two window air-conditioners, and low-energy light bulbs to help reduce its CUC bill.

About 10 families per month are now receiving the assistance.

"The Weatherization Program has been in existence nationally since 1976," said Sablan. "But like so many federal programs no one in the last thirty years got the Northern Marianas included. But with the passage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act in February 2009 the people of the Northern Mariana Islands are no longer left out of this worthwhile program."

Some of Sablan's first votes in Congress were in favor of the Recovery Act over unanimous opposition by Republicans in the House of Representatives.

The jump in funding Sablan announced is the result of an audit by the Inspector General of the Department of Energy. Auditors discovered that the department had used a different climate factor in computing the allocation of funds for the U.S. territories than it had used for allocating funds to states.

"The formula used for allocating funding to all grantees, except the territories, incorporated a 2004 climate factor based on the Energy Information Administration's 2001 Residential Energy Consumption Survey. The Department's formula for the territories, however, used an outdated 1995 climate factor," the Inspector General reported.

As a result, all of the U.S. territories were shortchanged on weatherization funding.

The IG also advised that because of lack of transparency in the way the allocations were reported it would have been "difficult, if not impossible" for local government officials to spot the discrepancy.

"The department has already responded to the audit by agreeing to the IG's recalculation of the correct funding. There will be other technical changes put into place, as well, to reduce the risk that this kind of mistake will happen again," Sablan said.

OAG told to disclose informant

Superior Court presiding judge Robert C. Naraja has ordered the Office of the Attorney General to disclose the identity of its confidential informant in a drug trafficking case.

"The informant's participation in the crime charged is an important factor in determining whether and when the identity of the confidential informant should be disclosed," said Naraja in the order granting Yuhua Wang's motion to have the identity of the informant disclosed.

In this case, the judge said, the informant is significantly involved in the alleged crime.

"Accordingly, the informant's involvement in the crime charged is significant and weighs considerably toward early disclosure," he said.

Members of the Drug Enforcement Task Force and the Criminal Investigation Bureau arrested the 32-year-old Wang last March 1 for trafficking of a controlled substance and illegal possession of controlled substance.

According to a police report, members of the DETF and the Department of Public Safety's Criminal Investigation Bureau managed to purchase $400 worth of "ice" from Wang in two transactions in February using a confidential source.

Wang, through assistant public defender Richard Miller, wants the court to order the disclosure of the name and address of the informant, his criminal history, and any consideration paid him by government agents in exchange for his cooperation.

In granting Wang's request, Naraja said the court must balance the government's interest in concealing the informant's identity to protect the flow of information to law enforcement officials against the accused's due process right to prepare a defense.

Naraja said in this case, not only did the informant notify law enforcement officers of Wang's alleged drug activities, but he called Wang on the phone to set up the drug buy and carried out the transaction. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

FATHER'S DAY LUNCH

$ 15.00

360 Salad With Choice Of Dressing
or
Light Clam Chowder With Garlic Croutons

Baked Pork Loin With Glazed Apples, Onion Sauce, Mashed Potatoes Or Rice, Vegetables
or
Crispy, Cajun Seasoned Mahi Mahi On Tomato Spaghetti, Vegetables

Banana Split

$ 20.00

360 Salad With Choice Of Dressing

Light Clam Chowder With Garlic Croutons

Marinated CAB® Top Sirloin Steak With Spinach, Feta And Tomato Dressing, Mashed Potatoes Or Rice, Vegetables

360 Chocolate Mousse With Strawberries

FATHER'S DAY DINNER

$ 20.00

360 Salad With Choice Of Dressing

Light Clam Chowder With Garlic Croutons

Baked Pork Loin With Glazed Apples, Onion Sauce, Mashed Potatoes Or Rice, Vegetables
or
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$ 40.00

Caesar Salad With Lemon And Herb Cured Alaskan Salmon

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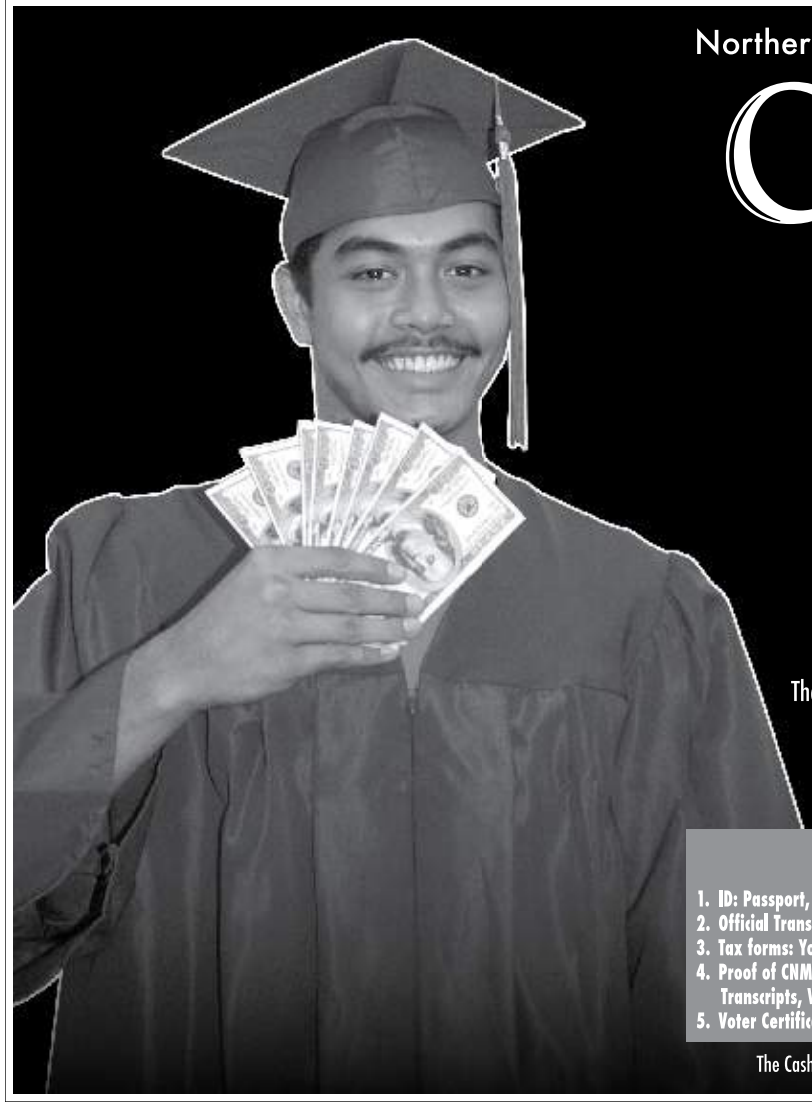

Northern Marianas College and the College Access Challenge Project

Cash for College

Step-By-Step Workshop to Help
You Find Thousands of $$ For College!

Attend the FREE Cash for College Workshop and receive personal assistance in completing forms for free application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), Saipan Higher Education Financial Aid (SHEFA),CNMI Scholarship, and other financial aid.

HAPPENING TODAY, Saturday, June 19, at NMC's Building A
The workshop will be an ongoing session, so participants can stop by anytime between 9am to 3pm.

Attending the free workshop also qualifies you for a waiver of NMC's application fee and placement test fees for the Fall 2010 semester (a savings of up to $75!).
The workshop is open to both new and ongoing students.

Although not required for entry into the workshop, please bring in the following documents to help you complete the scholarship forms at the workshop:
1. ID: Passport, Birth Certificate, or Green Card
2. Official Transcript from high school (at least three official copies)
3. Tax forms: Your OR your parents' signed 2009 1040 form (2009 W-2 statements if you and/or your parents did not or will not file taxes)
4. Proof of CNMI residency for 2008 and 2009 (For Example, CNMI 1040 tax form, Employment Verification from your employer, Official Transcripts, Voter's Certification, etc.)
5. Voter Certification (to show you voted in last election – Contact Election Commission for more information) – SHEFA Requirement

The Cash for College Workshop is made possible through the financial support of the U.S. DOE, College Access Challenge Grant Program.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER
The Associated Press Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Afghan mineral windfall requires go-slow approach

(c) 2010, The Dallas Morning News

U.S. geologists report that Afghanistan, one of the world's poorest nations, could hold massive mineral reserves worth nearly $1 trillion. For a largely illiterate country of 28 million, locked in a seemingly incessant cycle of war and religious turmoil, such a windfall certainly heralds the possibility of transformative change. The question is whether it'll be change for the better or worse.

An internal Pentagon memo cited by *The New York Times* describes Afghanistan as the "Saudi Arabia of lithium," a key ingredient in rechargeable batteries with great potential to revolutionize production of electric vehicles. Additional deposits of iron, copper, cobalt and gold could position Afghanistan to become a magnet for international investment.

Much depends on how this new potential wealth is exploited. Rare are the examples of countries that have managed such riches responsibly and for the betterment of their own people.

Chile is a shining example of a country whose mineral wealth was managed carefully, helping Chile become one of the most stable and prosperous nations in the southern hemisphere. Angola offers the opposite story in which the international exploitation of diamond and oil reserves contributed to decades of war from the 1960s through 1990s. Despite being one of Africa's top oil producers, most Angolans subsist today on incomes of less than $1 a day.

No matter how well-meaning Afghan President Hamid Karzai might be in promising to use this potential wealth for good, the recent record of endemic corruption suggests otherwise—particularly involving the country's $4 billion opium trade. While new mining concessions could provide thousands of jobs and wean Afghans from dependence on illicit farming, it also could fuel far worse corruption, violence and environmental degradation.

For the United States, an economically stable Afghanistan is one far more likely to survive without our constant military protection. But the Afghan leadership must understand the need to move slowly and cautiously. Major legal and judicial reforms must precede any mining concessions to ensure maximum transparency.

Given Afghanistan's recent history, the prospects aren't good. But the heavy U.S. military and diplomatic presence there offers the best hope that today's opportunity won't turn into tomorrow's disaster.

SIX MONTHS AGO:
THIS IS JUST a WEATHER EVENT and NOT the CLIMATE!... PLUS WE DON'T CALL IT 'GLOBAL WARMING' ANYMORE... NOW, IT'S CALLED 'CLIMATE CHANGE'...
RECORD SNOWFALL!
The LEFT
©2010 THE AUGUSTA CHRONICLE 6/16
NOW:
...GLOBAL WARMING!!
RECORD HEAT!
The LEFT

Parenting doesn't end when Johnny graduates

By JENNIFER A. MARSHALL
The Heritage Foundation

Jennifer A. Marshall is director of the DeVos Center for Religion and Civil Society at The Heritage Foundation and author of Now and Not Yet: Making Sense of Single Life in the Twenty-First Century. *Readers may write to her in care of The Heritage Foundation, 214 Massachusetts Avenue NE, Washington, D.C. 20002; Web site: www.heritage.org. Information about Heritage's funding may be found at http://www.heritage.org/about/reports.cfm.*

In the glow of graduation season across America, many a proud, tuition-paying parent sighs with relief and thinks, "My work here is done." Well, think again, Mom and Dad.

Meet the "emerging adult."

Emerging adulthood is the phrase sociologists are using to help make sense of today's prolonged transition from adolescence. And by prolonged, they mean roughly a decade—from age 18 to 29. Cultural changes over a half-century, ranging from increased higher education to delayed marriage, have produced a new phase distinct from adolescence or adulthood.

Telltale signs: constant flux and a general uncertainty about purpose and direction.

"To an extent matched by no other time in the life course, emerging adults enjoy and endure multiple, layered, big and often unanticipated life transitions," writes Notre Dame scholar Christian Smith in his book "Souls in Transition: The Religious & Spiritual Lives of Emerging Adults."

Smith and his research colleagues launched a major study to understand the role of religion for American youth. The researchers have tracked 3,290 individuals and surveyed them at two key intervals—between ages 13 and 17, and again between 18 and 23.

"Souls in Transition" tells their story. As the title suggests, emerging adults are unsettled about some of life's most fundamental issues.

"Emerging adults are determined to be free," Smith says. "But they do not know what is worth doing with that freedom."

Nor do they necessarily recognize they're under the influence of powerful cultural dynamics that hinder their quest to "stand on their own two feet," he writes. Trends such as postmodernism and relativism are "confusing," "debilitating" and "thwart many of them from ever being able to decide what they believe is really true, right and good."

In the midst of that confusion, continued parental engagement can be an asset (perhaps counterintuitively) to help emerging adults find that path to freedom they so desire.

One key challenge is continually renegotiating what individual identity means in relation to parents. Still, young people want positive relationships with their parents. They prize freedom and autonomy, but their parents may not recognize they still long for a sense of direction and guidance.

Smith's research found that parents' shaping influence in their children's religious lives was particularly strong—stronger than the direct influence of peers. Yet too often, parents at this stage back away from giving input on some of the most pressing and basic issues, including religious belief and lasting relationships.

Only 15 percent of emerging adults have a strong personal faith and practice it regularly, Smith's research shows. About 30 percent are engaged inconsistently or loosely affiliated with a religious tradition. One in four is indifferent toward religion, while 15 percent are open to spiritual or religious matters but haven't made a personal commitment. The final 15 percent have little or no connection to religion, or hold negative attitudes toward it.

Emerging adults tend to look at church as sort of an elementary school for morals, Smith concludes. Once you've got the basics of right and wrong, you eventually "graduate," perhaps returning when it's time for your own children to learn elementary morality.

This is a stark contrast to the idea of faith as a permanent, transcendent anchor of meaning amid crashing waves of change. Rather than the source of purpose they seek, these young people see a mere shadow of an important historical role of religious congregations: providing community and support for individuals and families from womb to tomb.

American society should brace for broader repercussions if our emerging adults continue to have a narrowing perspective on, and be less engaged in, religious institutions. Those institutions are traditionally a first line of defense for the welfare of the greater community, not just their members.

When support erodes from family, churches and other institutions of civil society, those in need are more likely to become dependent on government social programs.

That's something for parents and other wise counselors to keep in mind while they hope to see emerging adults stand on their own two feet.

As the class of 2010 graduates from college, the struggling economy presents only one set of immediate challenges. Whether these young Americans also choose to "graduate" from the support systems of family and faith may well determine not only their freedom as individuals but, ultimately, the freedom of our society.

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

This Father's Day gift is fit for a dad

By JOHN KASS
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

So the other morning, one of the boys asked me the big question.

"Dad? What do you want for Father's Day?"

It was an honest question, but he may also have been thinking I'd ask for something absolutely necessary, perhaps a new Xbox 360 with cool M-rated games, or smart phones for the entire family, with Internet access for everyone.

Being a dad, rather than go for cool, I went for timeless:

What would I like for Father's Day? Only your devotion and love. Oh, and one more thing.

"What?"

Take out the puppy and don't let him crap all over the yard. And don't forget the bag. Thanks, son.

The boy sighed a big sigh and walked off, no doubt promising himself that when he becomes a dad, he'll ask for cool gifts that can be shared by all.

Ah, the joys of fatherhood.

The truth is, Father's Day is a racket. The kids and the wife are pressured to buy you stuff. But dads are cheap, and if a dad really wanted something for himself, he'd have purchased it already.

Dads don't like to spend a dime, especially in this lousy economy. And if you require proof, the next time you're stuck in traffic on a sweltering, humid morning, just look at the dad in the car in the next lane.

His car windows are open. Why? Because he just loves the smell of expressway? No, the windows are open because the air conditioning is on the fritz, and dads don't want to drop $400 to fix it.

What doesn't help are all the expensive Father's Day gift ideas.

"A Father's Day brunch fit for a king at the Peninsula Chicago," said a plea from one of the city's truly great hotels, offering a "regal brunch to show all dads how important they are to their families."

The fancy brunch offers (what else?) barbecue, including beef brisket, baby back ribs, chicken and heaping piles of slab bacon, plus lobster, flounder and puff pastries.

And all for only $98 per person, not including the various and odious Chicago taxes courtesy of our greedy politicians. Don't forget the heart transplant.

But $98 for a Father's Day barbecue brunch? Nonsense. How could I possibly enjoy barbecue for a hundred per person?

And even if I did, what would my boys and wife and mom eat, the four of them waiting out there in the car for hours?

There are other possibilities, like the Father's Day story idea sent by a public relations guy for a hospital.

His big idea? For Father's Day, why not send dad to the doctor?

"Men don't live as long as women," begins the cheerful spiel, noting that Father's Day is just the time for dads to "take stock of their health" before they receive that special gift:

A colonoscopy.

So after the $98 bacon brunch, you get a scope inserted up your behind. Doesn't that just say Father's Day to you?

And don't forget about another surefire winner: Dad Perfume.

"For the father with discerning taste and impeccable style, refined luxury in the form of exquisite scents is certain to be a coveted gift," gushes the copy for Hermes.

Their special dad scent is called Eau d' Orange Verte, and was "inspired by the smell of undergrowth on a dewy morning," which makes you think of your old man, doesn't it?

What's more, the special dad smell "stands out for a freshness that is as invigorating as it is unusual."

But you know what would really be invigorating?

That hard smack on the back of the head from my wife if I dared show up at the breakfast table smelling of damp undergrowth.

"Didn't you take a shower?" she'd ask, hands on her hips in the timeless posture of exasperated Sicilian women.

If dad really wants to smell like wet underbrush on a morning in June, all he's got to do is weed the flower garden, a task which I have skillfully avoided for several weeks now.

So we've touched the basic ideas.

Dad perfume? No.

$100-per-person brunch? No, because dads don't want to eat alone.

A colonoscopy for Father's Day? Gee, thanks. May I please have another?

My young friend Wings just told me of some absolutely perfect gifts he gave his dad many years ago, when Wings was in the third grade. His mom had the idea.

They're such outstanding gifts that I hope that every family in America gives their dad a bunch of them on Father's Day. What are they?

Father's Day Coupons of Servitude.

Wings took some construction paper and wrote out coupons promising to shine his dad's shoes, coupons for cleaning the garage, others for cleaning up the dog's business in the backyard without complaint, and so on.

With his mom wisely urging him on, Wings got excited and enthusiastically made dozens of coupons.

Being a kid, he didn't really think his dad would actually redeem the Coupons of Servitude. Wings was wrong.

"He hoarded them," grumbled Wings. "And he was still cashing in on them three years later."

What a fantastic Father's Day gift.

Coupons of Servitude may not be cool. But they don't cost a thing.

All they cost is time, and a child's devotion. And it sure beats a Father's Day colonoscopy.

John Kass is a columnist for the Chicago Tribune. *Readers may send him e-mail at jskass@tribune.com.*

Bloomsday and James Joyce

By TIM RUTTEN
LOS ANGELES TIMES

"History is a nightmare from which I am trying to awake."

Wednesday, people around the world gathered in libraries and theaters, pubs and restaurants, streets and squares to commemorate a precise set of events that included the preceding snatch of conversation and that occurred between daybreak and midnight in a provincial European city on June 16, 1904—events they know full well never happened.

This, of course, is Bloomsday, the annual celebration of the 20th century's greatest novel, *Ulysses*, and of the genius of its author, the Irishman James Joyce. How he and his masterpiece came to be lionized so widely is one of cultural history's strangest and most instructive stories.

Joyce was born to upper-middle-class parents in a fashionable Dublin suburb, but his civil servant father was pensioned off because of his politics and drinking, and the family slid into genteel penury. James nonetheless obtained a first-rate education from the Jesuits and at University College, then Dublin's alternative to Trinity College, which Irish Catholics were forbidden by their church to attend. (Joyce would describe Trinity in "Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man" as a place "set heavily in the city's ignorance like a dull stone set in a cumbrous ring.")

Joyce found his native city's religious and political pieties stultifying and fled as soon as he was able for the Continent, taking with him his companion, Nora Barnacle. Aside from a couple of hurried business trips, Joyce never returned to Dublin. He ultimately settled his family in Paris, and it was there in 1922 that Sylvia Beach published the first edition of Joyce's masterpiece, *Ulysses*. It was like nothing ever written before—a novel of 265,000 words divided into 18 "episodes" recounting in complete detail a single day in the outward and inner lives of an ordinary Dubliner, the advertising canvasser Leopold Bloom, his friends and unforgettably unfaithful wife, Molly. (June 16, 1904, was chosen because it was the date of his first walk with Nora.)

Joyce told his friend Frank Budgen that his intention was "to give a picture of Dublin so complete that if the city one day suddenly disappeared from the Earth, it could be reconstructed out of my book."

From the start, *Ulysses* enjoyed a tumultuously divided reception. The American editors of the *Little Review*, which serialized the novel as Joyce wrote it, were prosecuted for obscenity. Customs authorities in England, Ireland and the United States seized and destroyed copies of the completed novel. The era's greatest writers felt differently. T.S. Eliot called it "the most important expression which this present age has found," a "book to which we are all indebted, and from which none of us can escape."

Wednesday, Dublin was awash in commemorations, from dramatic readings to special breakfasts including the kidneys that Leopold purchased and fried for Molly before he set out. Thousands will consume the lunch he ate in Davey Byrnes, "the moral pub"—a gorgonzola sandwich and a glass of burgundy. Joyce's alma mater, University College, will confer a medal named for him on the German philosopher Jurgen Habermas.

"St. Joyce has replaced St. Patrick in the new, post-Catholic Ireland," the columnist and critic Fintan O'Toole once quipped to me.

That doesn't explain the many who will gather in American cities to observe Bloomsday. There will be dramatic readings, broadcast on the Web, in various theaters up and down New York's Broadway and special commemorations at Philadelphia's Rosenbach Museum & Library, where the autographed manuscript copy of *Ulysses* is housed. Many will listen to the readings and lectures because they've never read the apotheosis of high modernism. In fact, the book may grow more inaccessible each year, since most young readers lack the grounding in the classics that Joyce took for granted in his future audience.

Declan Kiberd, the most original of contemporary commentators on Joyce, speculates that the enduring appeal of *Ulysses* rests in the author's egalitarian impulse that transformed the ordinary into the epic; that ended in quiet fellowship between the petty bourgeoisie Bloom and the poet, Stephen Dedalus; with Molly's deathlessly erotic monologue and the realization that she loves Leopold still.

Or perhaps we celebrate Bloomsday because, as Joyce put it, "If *Ulysses* isn't fit to read, then life isn't fit to live."

Timothy Rutten is a columnist for the Los Angeles Times. *Readers may send him e-mail at timothy.rutten@latimes.com.*

Which generation is more patriotic?

By JANE GLENN HAAS
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

What is patriotism? Does any one generation have a lock on love of country?

And how do we honor those people who have made it possible for all of us to be here today striving to be better tomorrow?

Lenny Crupnick says the "Greatest Generation"—the men and women who fought and worked together during World War II—deserves the moniker originally bestowed by author/journalist Tom Brokaw.

"Of course we are the greatest," Crupnick says. "Because we believe in America. We are the real patriots."

Crupnick, an Anaheim, Calif., resident, signed up for the Marines when he was 17. His parents were born in Russia and immigrated to the United States as children. He was born 86 years ago in Massachusetts but grew up in the Bronx.

He fought at Guadalcanal, Guam, Okinawa. He carried a Browning automatic rifle.

"I loved the Marine Corps." Crupnick says. "I am proud I was a Marine."

Proud, and also a bit overwhelmed by his place in history. Children 12 and 13 pushed and shoved each other to get into a photo with him recently in Washington, D.C.

The kids, he says, couldn't believe they were actually talking to someone who had been at Guadalcanal. And Crupnick was astonished the kids even knew about Guadalcanal—and its place in the Pacific during World War II.

He was among 38 World War II veterans invited by the Grand Masonic Lodge of California (freemason.org) to tour the war memorials in the nation's capital.

Noting that the World War II memorial was not even built until 2004, the Masons have determined to honor veterans who are now too old, and perhaps too disabled, to make the trip alone. Several on Crupnick's trip were in wheelchairs.

Five trips were made this spring and more are planned for the fall, says Joyce Hahn, spokesperson for the San Francisco-based Grand Lodge. The number of veterans who eventually will make the three-day trip depends on donations, she says.

"And I'm not even a Mason!" Crupnick says. "I'm Jewish!"

But the bigger question—does the Greatest Generation have a lock on patriotism—remains an open-ended discussion.

Boomers, who are children of the Greatest and fought in Vietnam, might not agree. Certainly Gen Xers, the Boomer children, would not.

There is a difference, of course, between "patriotism" and "nationalism." Love of country does not necessarily translate into unswerving acceptance of government policies—including wars.

"Oh, the poor men and women in today's war," Crupnick agrees. "They face a different enemy, different weapons like land mines."

Now war is fought by both genders, he notes. And those soldiering often lack support on the homefront, just as much of the public was "against" Korea and Vietnam, he concedes.

Still, Crupnick stands as the example of what we celebrate on Memorial Day.

The World War II generation opened America's eyes to the richness and variety in our own land. One veteran's wife told me, "before Keith went into the service, he didn't even know what salami was. He learned so much from the guys he served with."

They fought for freedom. And so did their children, who launched Civil Rights and the feminist movement.

On Memorial Day, we honored those who have guaranteed our freedoms.

We may not be a perfect nation, but we keep working on it.

Jane Glenn Haas writes for The Orange County (Calif.) Register. *E-mail her at jghaas@cox.net.*

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Partly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼77°	▲89° ▼79°	▲90° ▼79°	▲90° ▼79°

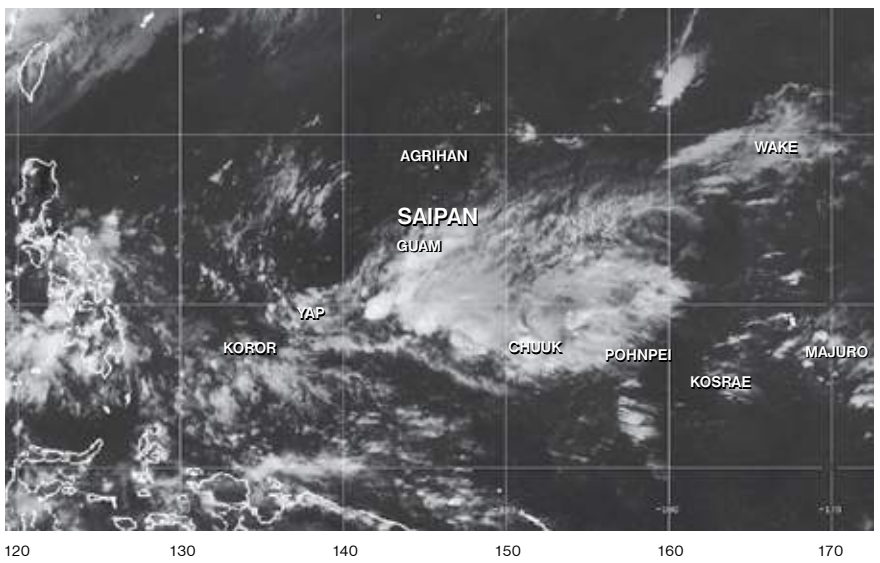
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼79
Palau	Showers	▲85	▼77
Yap	Showers	▲86	▼78
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲82	▼77
Pohnpei	Rain	▲87	▼75
Kosrae	Showers	▲90	▼78
Majuro	Showers	▲85	▼77

Around The Globe

Auckland	Cloudy	▲60	▼57
Beijing	Sunny	▲89	▼70
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲87	▼81
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼74
London	Mostly Cloudy	▲59	▼47
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲72	▼57
Manila	Thundershowers	▲90	▼82
Melbourne	Cloudy	▲60	▼52
Miami	Thundershowers	▲91	▼80
New York	Sunny	▲86	▼65
Osaka	Thunderstorms	▲83	▼73
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲61	▼49
Pusan	Mostly Cloudy	▲77	▼69
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲77	▼63
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲70	▼52
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲56	▼51
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼70
Tokyo	Rain	▲81	▼73
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲92	▼76

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, JUNE 15, 2010
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Converging south winds are combining with divergent upper-level winds to generate scattered showers northwest of the Marianas within 80 miles of a line from 15N134E to 23N140E. An upper-level trough extends northeastward from EQ130E through an upper-level low centered near Guam at 14N144E to beyond 25N at 160E. Upper-level divergence associated with the trough is triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over Palau and Yap within 110 miles of a line from 1M130E to 7N133E to 10N142E. Scattered showers are also found southeast of Minami Tori Shima within 70 miles of a line from 20N157E to 25N164E. A surface trough reaches northeastward from 5N144E to 20N150E. Trade winds converging near the trough are combining with upper-level divergence mentioned in the previous paragraph to produce scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms from just southeast of Guam to west of Pohnpei within 175 miles of a line from 12N145E to 8N158e. Trade-wind convergence is causing scattered showers southwest of Wake Island between 17N and 19N from 162E to 166E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are seen as well over Majuro and eastward to the date line or within 105 miles of a line from 8N170E to 6N173E to 8N180.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

1:11 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
7:47 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet
1:00 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.4 Feet
7:15 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.4 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:47 AM	6:49 PM
Sunday	5:48 AM	6:49 PM
Monday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Tuesday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Wednesday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	12:11 PM	
Sunday	1:07 PM	12:24 AM
Monday	2:03 PM	1:06 AM
Tuesday	3:00 PM	1:51 AM
Wednesday	3:58 PM	2:38 AM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 27, 2010

DEPARTURES

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

C09597	5:00am	5:30am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	Daily
C09605	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily
C09599	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	5:55am	8:35am	Daily
DL297	3:35pm	6:15pm	Daily
DL289	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:10am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

CZ3008	3:30am	6:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
OZ604/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ606/703	2:20am	11:00pm	1 via ICN
OZ606/703	2:50am	11:00pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ608/705	3:20am	12:10am+1	1, 5 via PUS
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	6 via GUM
C09603/893	3:05pm	9:10pm	3, 5 via GUM-Palau
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ606/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	4, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/909	3:05am	9:30pm	1, 5 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

C09598	6:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09600	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09606	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL290	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
DL288	8:40pm	1:15am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

CZ3007	7:30pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ704/605	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ706/607	3:35am	2:20am+1	4, 7 via PUS
C0890/9606	10:55am	9:00pm	6 via GUM
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C0892/9596	10:10pm	7:50am+1	3,5 via GUM-Palau
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:20pm	2 ,4 ,6, 7 via ICN
OZ750/605	1:00am	2:20pm	2, 4 ,6 ,7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0910/9596	10:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

Schedule of Religious Services

CATHOLIC

Mt. Carmel Cathedral
Sunday Mass: 6am, 9am, 11am and 6pm
Monday-Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm

Korean Center
Sunday: 10:30am
Wednesday: 10am
Thursday-Friday: 8pm
Saturday: 3pm and 7:30pm

Kristo Rai Parish
Sunday Mass: 6am, 8am and 9:30am
Monday- Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm
Saturday: 6am and 6pm

Nuestra Senora De Soledad Parish
Wednesday Mass: 6pm
First Friday Healing Mass: 6pm
Saturday Mass: 6pm
Sunday Masses: 7:30am & 9am

Saint Jude Parish
Sunday: 6am, 8am, 10am
Wednesday and Thursday: 6pm

San Antonio Parish
Sunday: 6am and 8am
Tuesday and Friday: 6pm

San Francisco de Borja-Rota
Sunday: 6am and 8am
Monday-Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6pm

San Isidro-Rota
Sunday: 5am and 10am
Monday-Wednesday: 7pm
Thursday-Saturday: 5am and 7pm

San Jose (Oleai) Parish
Sunday: 6am and 7:30am
Tuesday-Wednesday and Friday-Saturday: 6pm

San Roque Parish
Sunday: 9am
Wednesday: 6pm
Saturday: 10:30am

San Vicente Parish
Sunday: 6am, 9am and 6pm
Monday-Saturday: 6pm

Santa Remedios
Sunday: 7:30am
Tuesday: 6pm
Saturday: 10am-Baptism

Santa Soledad
Sunday: 7:30am

PROTESTANT

Born Again Christian (Upper Room Int'l Ministries), Saipan
Wednesday Prayer and Healing Night: 8-10:30pm
Saturday Tagalog Service: 8-10:30pm
Sunday English Service: 9:30-11am
Sunday School for Children: 10-11am
Sunday Filipino Service: 7-9pm

Calvary Baptist Church, Saipan
Sunday School: 9am
Sunday Morning Worship: 10am
Sunday Evening Worship: 6pm
Wednesday Prayer Service: 7pm

Chinese Christian Church of Saipan
Worship Services:
Sunday, 10am and 7:30pm
Bible Study: Tuesday-Friday, 9:25pm

Cornerstone Christian Church, Saipan
Worship/Study Opportunities
Adult Sunday School: 9am
Youth Sunday School: 9am
English Worship Service Sunday: 10am
Sunday Service: 5:30pm
Worship/Fellowship Sunday: 9:30pm
Evangelism/Follow-up:
Sunday/Monday: 1:30/7:30pm
Worship Team: Monday/Saturday-9pm;
Cell Groups Tuesday: 7:30pm
Mid-week Service: 7:30pm
Prayer Meeting Wednesday: 7:30pm
Leader's Bible Study Friday: 7:30 pm
Cornerstone School of Ministry Saturday: 7:30pm

Episcopal/Anglican Church on Saipan
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Worship Service Sunday: Holy Communion 9:00am
Place: Vicarage, Chalan Laulau,
Call 235-0545 for directions

Grace Christian Assembly, Saipan
Worship Service: 9am
GBI Classes: 4-6pm
Prayer Meeting: Monday-Saturday: 6am
Sunday: 7am
Home Cell Bible Study: Wednesday-Friday: 7pm
Youth Service: Friday: 5:30pm

Iglesia Ni Cristo, Saipan
Wednesday: 7:45pm (English)
Thursday: 5:30am (English); 7:45 pm (Tagalog)
Saturday: 7:45pm (Tagalog)
Sunday: 6:45am (English)
Children Worship Service: Sunday, 9am (English)

Immanuel United Methodist Church
Chalan Kanoa Drive, Chalan Kanoa
(east of Town Center and Beach Road,
Near Mt. Carmel Cathedral)
Worship Service: 9:00am
Children's Sunday School: 9:00am
Choir Practice: 8:00am
Singspiration: 8:30am
Prayer, Care & Share: Wednesday 7:00pm
Pastor: Millie Carroll 322-6158

Immanuel Methodist Church (Filipino Congregation)
Sunday: 7:00am-Choir Rehearsal
8:00am-Church Service (Tagalog)
9:15am-Sunday School
Wednesday: 6:30pm, home group
8:00pm-Prayer Meeting
Thursday: 7:30pm-Choir Practice (Church)
Saturday: 8:00pm-Choir Practice (Parsonage)

Jesus is Lord Church, Saipan
English Service: 9-11am, Sunday
Tagalog Service: 6-8pm, Sunday

Korean Presbyterian Church, Saipan
Sunday School: 8:20am
Sunday Adult: 10am
Sunday Adult: 11:30am
Sunday Evening: 7:30pm
Wednesday: 8pm

Life in the Son Christian Fellowship, Saipan
Sunday Worship Service: 10am–12noon
Tuesday: Leadership Institute 7pm-10pm
Wednesday: Corporate prayer 7pm-8pm
Last Friday of the month-prayer: 7pm-11pm
Friday: Youth on Fire: 7pm-9pm
Tel. No. 235-LIFE (5433)

Marianas Baptist Church, Saipan
English Worship Service: 9-10:30am
Evening Worship Service: 6-7pm
Children Sunday School: 9-10:30am
Tagalog Sunday School: 11am-12pm
English Sunday School: 11am-12pm
Korean Worship Service: 11am-12pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting:
English, 7pm-8pm
Korean: 8:30pm-9:30pm

Missions Connection Ministry
Every Sunday Celebrations:
10am (English), 6pm (Tagalog)
Wednesday Bible Study: 7pm
Youth Impact Friday: 7pm
Saturday Prayer Meeting: 7pm

Northern Marianas Christian Church
Sunday Worship Service 10am Fina Sisu Housing FS#1 (Child care will be provided)
Friday Services @ 7pm Fina Sisu FS#1 for more info pls. contact Ryan 484-2620

Saipan Bible Fellowship Church
Sunday School: 9:30-10am
Divine Worship: 10am-11:30am
Evening Service: 7pm-8:30pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 8pm-9pm

Saipan Christian Church
Sunday: 7:30am-10am
Sunday: 6:30 pm -9pm
Monday: 8 pm -10pm (Prayer Meeting)
Thursday: 8pm-10pm (Cell Groups)

Saipan Church of Christ
Sunday Bible Class: 9am
Sunday Worship: 10am
Sunday Worship English: 6pm
Sunday Worship Tagalog: 7pm
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:30pm

Saipan Community Church
(Sunday Services)
Palau Service: 7:30am-9am
English Service: 10am-11:30am
Chuukese Service: 1pm-2:30pm
Filipino Service: 5:00pm-7:00pm

Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Saipan
(Saturday Church Services)
Sabbath School Program: 9-10am
Lesson Study: 10-10:40am
Divine Service: 11-12pm
Visitation: 3-4pm
Adventist Youth Program: 4:30-5:30pm
Sundown Worship: 6-7pm

First Baptist Church
(Formerly Saipan Baptist Church)
Afetna St., San Antonio
Sunday
9am Sunday school
10am Regular worship
6pm worship
Wednesday
7pm worship
Everyone is warmly welcome to attend our worship services. Transportation is readily available to anyone who needs a ride to our church. For further information, please call Pastor David M. Mclure at 234-1939/235-7779.

Thy Word Ministries Saipan Faith Center
Phone 234-0209
New Christian Charismatic Church Service located in Chalan Paio, Beach Road in the Sablan building on the 2nd floor above Subway Sandwiches.
Senior Pastors: George & Gail Kamakahi
Asst. Pastors: Eric & Penny Sakaguchi
Service Times
Sunday 10:00am Worship Service
Sunday 7pm Discipleship Classes
Tuesday 10:00am Bible Studies
Tuesday 6:00pm Intercessory Prayer
Tuesday 7:00pm Music Practice
Wednesday 7:00pm Mid-Week Service
Saturday 10:00am Evangelism

Upper Room International Ministries
Sunday 5:30am-6:30am
Morning prayer
7am-9am English service
7am-9am Sunday school
10am-12noon English service,
Koblerville
Wednesday 7pm-9pm Prayer meeting
Saturday 7pm-9pm Tagalog service
Venue: Jason Presbyterian Church
Gualo Rai, Saipan

Victory Chapel Christian Fellowship Church
Sunday School: 9:30am
Sunday AM Worship:10:30am
Sunday PM Worship:7:00am
Wed Worship: 7:30pm
Prayer 45 min. Prior to Service Times
Morning Prayer: 6-8am M-S

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

June 19, 2000

Most BOE members favor 25 percent funding hike
Board of Education members in favor of the proposed 25 percent increase for the Public School System's yearly allotment prevailed over those who remain opposed to the legislative initiative. After revisiting the issue over a board meeting Friday, BOE Member Marja Lee Taitano, Vice Chair Roman Benavente, and Chair Frances Diaz decided to go with the percentage increase, citing that significant reforms in the school system can be accomplished through more funding. But Member Esther Fleming remains opposed to the legislation. "I cannot justify the 25 percent. I don't agree that we should change the constitution to amend the current percentage. Tampering could lead to other things. I say we should justify our own needs as we go along," said Ms. Fleming.

Senate OKs tougher penalties vs businesses without license
Legislation seeking tougher penalties against businesses operating without a government license is now awaiting action from Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio after the Senate passed on Friday HB-12-45 classifying such offense a criminal act. If it becomes law, violators could be found guilty of a felony, punishable by a fine of not more than $50,000, imprisonment of up to five years, or both. The measure, proposed by Rep. David M. Apatang, is an amendment to existing statute under Public Law 11-73 that allows the Department of Commerce to impose administrative sanctions against businesses without the necessary license.

June 19, 2001

US Senate urged to justify claims
A Saipan legislator asked the United States Congress to provide the CNMI copies of studies allegedly commissioned by Washington to determine the impact of extending federal minimum wage into the Commonwealth. In a letter to US Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Rep. Dino M. Jones demanded that the US Senate prove its claims that it has commissioned studies relating to the extension of federal minimum wage into the Northern Marianas. Jones' letter came in the wake of revived discussions on the federalization of the Commonwealth's immigration and labor systems in Washington, through Senate Bill 277.

Separate utility bills for gov't agencies backed
The House Committee on Ways and Means has recommended the passage of an amendatory bill that would require all departments and government agencies to pay for their respective utility bills. In his report to House Speaker Benigno R. Fitial, Rep. Antonio M. Camacho, committee chairman, said that House Bill 12-234 will result in substantial savings for the Commonwealth government as it would shift the responsibility of paying for utilities consumption to the departments and agencies themselves. Utilities consumption includes the use of water, electricity and wastewater. According to Camacho, the legislature has been setting aside a lump sum for government utilities covering the Executive, Judicial and Legislative branches, as well as other government agencies.

June 19, 2002

Explosive detection machines to be installed at Saipan airport
The U.S. Department of Transportation has approved the installation of multi-million-dollar explosive detection machines at the Saipan International Airport to screen unscrupulous packages coming in and out of the CNMI. The installation of the detection machines at the Saipan airport is part of the beefed up security measures called for by the federal government following the Sept. 11 tragedies. CPA Executive Director Carlos H. Salas yesterday disclosed that the CNMI is included in the list of 490 airports across America that will be provided with the explosive detection machines.

Zoning as weapon vs. prostitution
The CNMI government is seriously looking into zoning the Garapan area as a means to deter the proliferation of prostitution in the area. Gov. Juan N. Babauta yesterday said that his administration, with the help of the Legislature, is now considering coming up with a measure that would drive out from Garapan those establishments that are suspected to be prostitution fronts. These include massage parlors, karaoke bars, and other such type of business establishments. "We need the help of the Legislature, though, in implementing this plan. Because we have to do something about this problem. We have to limit the Garapan area to certain types of businesses only, particularly since this is a family tourist area," Babauta said.

Business

BP chief says he wasn't in the loop, angers Congress

WASHINGTON (AP)—Channeling the nation's anger, lawmakers pilloried BP's boss in a withering day of judgment Thursday for the oil company at the center of the Gulf calamity. Unflinching, BP chief executive Tony Hayward said he was out of the loop on decisions at the well and coolly asserted, "I'm not stonewalling."

That infuriated members of Congress even more, Democrats and Republicans alike.

Hayward

Testifying as oil still surged into the Gulf of Mexico and coated ever more coastal land and marshes, Hayward declared "I am so devastated with this accident," "deeply sorry" and "so distraught."

Yet the oil man disclaimed knowledge of any of the myriad problems on and under the Deepwater Horizon rig before the deadly explosion, telling a congressional hearing he had only heard about the well earlier in April, the month of the accident, when the BP drilling team told him it had found oil.

"With respect, sir, we drill hundreds of wells a year around the world," Hayward told Republican Rep. Michael Burgess of Texas.

"Yes, I know," Burgess shot back. "That's what scaring me right now."

Rep. Phil Gingrey, R-Ga., told the CEO: "I think you're copping out. You're the captain of the ship." Democrats were similarly, if more predictably, livid.

"BP blew it," said Rep. Bart Stupak, D-Mich., chairman of the House investigations panel that held the hearing. "You cut corners to save money and time."

The verbal onslaught had been anticipated for days and unfolded at a nearly relentless pace.

With multiple investigations continuing and primary efforts in the Gulf focused on stopping the leak, there was little chance the nation would learn much from Hayward's appearance about what caused the disaster. Yet even modest expectations were not met as the CEO told lawmakers at every turn that he was not tuned in to operations at the well.

He said his underlings made the decisions and federal regulators were responsible for vetting them.

Hayward spoke slowly and calmly in his clipped British accent as he sought to deflect accusations—based on internal BP documents obtained by congressional investigators—that BP chose a particular well design that was riskier but cheaper by at least $7 million.

'Madoff of the Midwest' also gets state sentence

ST. LOUIS (AP)—A former Missouri grain dealer already in federal prison for duping roughly 180 farmers out of $27 million has been sentenced to 10 years on state charges in the swindle that landed her the moniker the "Madoff of the Midwest."

Cathy Gieseker, 45, of Martinsburg, closed out what prosecutors have called the biggest grain fraud scheme in Missouri's history, pleading guilty Wednesday in Warren County to a felony stealing count and four felony counts of filing false statements with the state Department of Agriculture. Prosecutors dropped seven other counts.

Gieseker was sentenced to 10 years on the theft charge and seven years apiece on the others, with those terms to be served simultaneously with each other and a nine-year federal sentence she got in February on mail-fraud charges.

The judge credited Gieseker with time already served, meaning it was unlikely she would serve additional prison time beyond her federal sentence.

Gieseker accepts responsibility and the sentence, her attorney said Thursday while acknowledging that "there are a lot of people upset—farmers, based on the letters I've read—with the outcome of the case, thinking the sentence was too light."

"I think she's very, very relieved that it is resolved, that it's finally over," Travis Noble Jr. added. "I know her family is relieved, and they can get on with trying to rebuild their lives."

When sentenced on the federal charges months ago, when she was ordered to pay restitution, Gieseker apologized to the victims in court and pledged to do all she could to "make sure they are paid what they are owed." But state agriculture officials have estimated the victims will likely get about 2 percent of their losses back.

Linus Rothermich still stings from the $258,000 he says he lost, costing the corn-and-soybean grower a full year of crop production and forcing him to borrow again when he thought he was finally free of lenders.

Nation

Clinton comment on immigration law riles Ariz. gov

PHOENIX (AP)—Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer said Thursday she's angry over comments by Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton that the Obama administration will sue the state over its new immigration law.

In a June 8 media interview in Ecuador that began circulating Thursday in the U.S., Clinton said President Barack Obama thinks the federal government should determine immigration policy and that the Justice Department "will be bringing a lawsuit against the act."

Brewer

Justice spokeswoman Tracy Schmaler on Thursday declined to say whether the department would sue and that "the department continues to review the law."

The department has been looking at the law for weeks for possible civil rights violations, with an eye toward a possible court challenge.

It's unclear why Clinton made the comment since it's not her area. She couldn't be reached Thursday for comment.

State Department spokesman P.J. Crowley said Obama and Clinton have both made it clear that the administration opposes the law.

"I will defer to the Justice Department on the legal steps that are available and where they stand on the review of the law," Crowley said. "The secretary believes that comprehensive immigration reform is a better course of action."

Brewer, a Republican, said in a statement that "this is no way to treat the people of Arizona."

"To learn of this lawsuit through an Ecuadorean interview with the secretary of state is just outrageous," she said. "If our own government intends to sue our state to prevent illegal immigration enforcement, the least it can do is inform us before it informs the citizens of another nation."

Jobless aid, tax bill hits Senate roadblock again

WASHINGTON (AP)—In another stinging setback for President Barack Obama and Democrats controlling Congress, the Senate on Thursday rejected long-sought legislation to provide stimulus spending and a reprieve for doctors about to get hit with a big cut in their Medicare payments.

The failed measure, killed by a GOP filibuster, would have provided further jobless aid for the long-term unemployed, $24 billion in aid to cash-strapped state governments and the renewal of dozens of popular tax breaks for businesses and individuals.

Less than a week ago, Obama reissued a plea for more stimulus spending as insurance against another recession. But the measure instead fell victim to election-year anxiety over huge federal deficits despite being pared back by Democratic leaders.

The 56-40 vote late Thursday fell four votes short of the 60 required to break the GOP filibuster. Not a single Republican supported the measure even though nine GOP senators had supported even more costly legislation in a procedural vote just three months ago. Ben Nelson of Nebraska was the only Democrat to vote with Republicans to filibuster the measure. Independent Joe Lieberman of Connecticut, who caucuses with Democrats, also joined in the filibuster.

Times Square car bomb suspect indicted in NYC

NEW YORK (AP)—Times Square bomb suspect Faisal Shahzad was charged Thursday with 10 terrorism and weapons counts in an indictment that accuses him of receiving explosives training and financial help from the Pakistani Taliban.

The indictment returned by a grand jury in U.S. District Court in Manhattan added five charges to the original case against the 30-year-old Shahzad and also detailed in greater depth his alleged financing, saying Shahzad had received a total of $12,000 from the militant group through cash drop-offs in Massachusetts and Long Island.

Shahzad is accused of plotting to build and detonate a homemade gasoline-and-propane bomb inside a used SUV among thousands of tourists on a busy Saturday night. He was charged with attempted use of a weapon of mass destruction among several terrorism and weapons counts.

"The facts alleged in this indictment show that the Pakistani Taliban facilitated Faisal Shahzad's attempted attack on American soil," Attorney General Eric Holder said in a release.

ACROSS THE NATION

Utah to execute condemned killer by firing squad

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—Utah is set to execute a condemned killer by firing squad shortly after midnight Thursday, reviving a style of justice that hasn't been used for at least 14 years and that many criticize as archaic. Barring the success of any final appeals, Ronnie Lee Gardner will be strapped into a chair, have a target pinned over his heart and die in a hail of bullets from five anonymous marksmen armed with .30-caliber rifles and firing from behind a ported wall. The 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver denied Gardner's petition for a stay Thursday, saying allegations of a conflict of interest by the Utah attorney general's office were without merit. Utah Gov. Gary Herbert also denied Gardner's request for a temporary stay, saying Gardner has had "a full and fair opportunity" to have his case considered. Gardner's final appeals are still pending before the U.S. Supreme Court.

DA: Mass. man left notes saying he killed family

WOBURN, Mass. (AP)—Thomas Mortimer IV called his new boss and told him he was too sick to come to work. He called his 4-year-old son's school to say the boy would be absent. When his wife's sister called, he told her it would be a while before she could return the call. And, prosecutors say, he wrote two identical letters found in his Boston-area home that read: "I did these horrible things. What I've done was extremely selfish and cowardly. I murdered my family." Mortimer, 43, was captured Thursday by police in northwestern Massachusetts hours after he was charged with four counts of first-degree murder in the deaths of his wife, two young children and mother-in-law. The day before, authorities were summoned to the Mortimer family home in Winchester by a relative who could not reach them.

Police say 1-year-old Texas girl died in hot car

KINGSVILLE, Texas (AP)—Police say a 1-year-old girl died after being left in a hot car in southern Texas for about 45 minutes. Kingsville Police Chief Ricardo Torres says the child's mother had just returned home from picking up her children when she mistakenly left the toddler in the family car Wednesday afternoon. Kingsville is about 140 miles southeast of San Antonio. No charges have been filed, but the case has been turned over to prosecutors. The Corpus Christi Caller-Times reports the temperature about 5 p.m. Wednesday, when police were called, was 91 degrees with a heat-index reading of 102.

A good father is one of the most unsung, unpraised, unnoticed, and yet one of the most valuable assets in our society. — Billy Graham

Happy Father's Day to all!

Greetings from

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on June 22, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before June 22.

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Asia

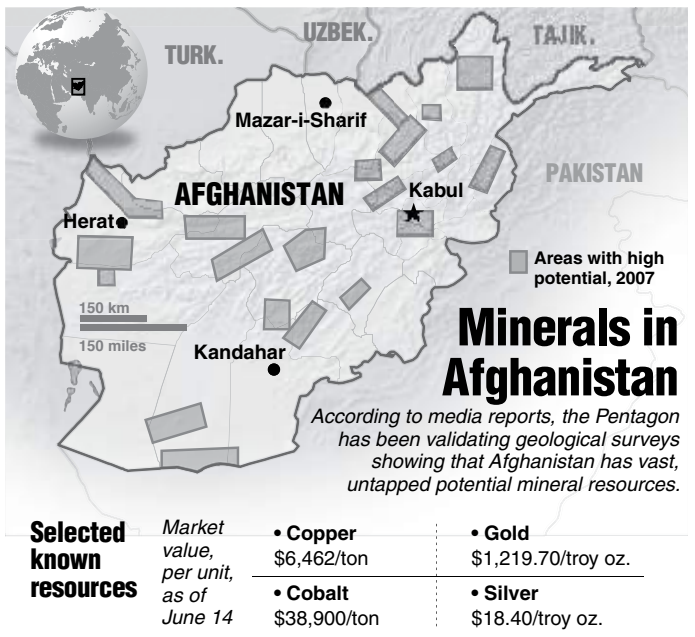
Afghan mineral wealth may be at least $3 trillion

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Afghanistan is gearing up to award contracts to mine one the world's largest iron ore deposits buried in a peaceful province of the war-torn nation that has at least $3 trillion in untapped minerals, the country's top mining official said Thursday.

Geologists have known for decades about Afghanistan's vast deposits of iron, copper, cobalt, gold and other prized minerals, but a U.S. Department of Defense briefing earlier this week put a startling, nearly $1 trillion price tag on the reserves.

Afghanistan's Minister of Mines Wahidullah Shahrani called that a conservative estimate. He said he's seen geological assessments and industry reports estimating the nation's mineral wealth at $3 trillion or more.

For Afghanistan, a violent, landlocked country with virtually no exports, it is a potential windfall, although formidable obstacles remain including lack of investment, infrastructure and adequate security in most of the nation.



"The ministry has been working closely with the international organizations, including the World Bank, the U.S. Geological Survey and the international mining and finance community for some time to ensure all of the Afghan people benefit from our rich natural resources for decades to come," he said.

Shahrani plans to travel to Britain next week to present 200 foreign businessmen with information about the estimated 2 billion tons of iron ore at Hajigak in Bamiyan province, where the Taliban and other insurgents have no significant presence. The project is to be bid on this fall with contracts awarded late this year or early next year, he said.

Bin Laden hunter's family says he'll get dialysis

DENVER (AP)—An American who was detained in Pakistan while on a solo mission to kill Osama bin Laden has been moved to the capital city of Islamabad and will soon get dialysis for his failing kidneys, a family spokesman said Thursday.

Gary Brooks Faulkner, a 50-year-old construction worker from Greeley, Colo., was detained Sunday in northern Pakistan. Police say he had a pistol, a sword, night-vision equipment and other gear and claimed he was out to kill the al-Qaida leader.

Stuart Crespin, a spokesman for Faulkner's Colorado family, said they don't know when Faulkner will return to the U.S. Crespin said none of the family have immediate plans to go to Pakistan.

The family is getting its information from the U.S. State Department and hasn't been able to speak directly to Faulkner, Crespin said. U.S. Embassy officials met with Faulkner on Thursday.

Pakistani security officials said Faulkner claims he set off for Pakistan after God appeared to him in a dream and ordered him to kill bin Laden to avenge the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks in the U.S.

He was trying to cross into the nearby Afghan region of Nuristan, one of bin Laden's rumored hiding places, the Pakistanis said.

Faulkner's sister, Deanna M. Faulkner, has expressed concerns about her brother's health, saying he can't survive without dialysis.

Crespin said he didn't know whether Gary Faulkner had received any dialysis treatments in Pakistan.

Embassy spokesman Richard Snelsire declined to provide details about Faulkner's condition, citing privacy concerns.

Crespin said he had no details, either.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Flooding, landslides kill nearly 60 in Myanmar

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—Days of flooding and landslides caused by monsoon downpours have killed 57 people in northwestern Myanmar, state media reported Friday. The torrential rain that started Sunday and ended midweek in Myanmar's northwestern Rakhine state triggered floods and mudslides that washed away homes, damaged schools and bridges, and forced more than 2,000 people to flee, the state-run Myanma Ahlin newspaper reported. Floodwater levels have receded and relief operations were under way, the report said. In neighboring Bangladesh, heavy rains killed more than 50 people this week. Flooding is common in Asia during the monsoon season that typically starts in late May. Cyclone Nargis struck Myanmar in May 2008, leaving more than 140,000 people dead or missing.

SKorean fighter jet crashes; 2 airmen killed

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea's Air Force says a fighter jet crashed into the sea after a training mission and its two pilots were killed. The Air Force said the F-5 jet went missing off the east coast early Friday as it was returning to its air base in Gangneung after finishing a training mission. The base is about 147 miles (237 kilometers) east of Seoul. The Air Force said rescuers recovered the bodies of the two pilots. The Air Force also grounded all F-5 jets for safety checks. The cause of the accident was not immediately known. In March, two F-5 jets crashed into a mountain during training, killing three airmen.

6.3 quake hits off Japanese coast; no damage seen

TOKYO (AP)—An earthquake with a magnitude of 6.3 has rattled northern Japan. The Japan Meteorological Agency said there was no danger of a tsunami. The quake occurred off the coast of the northern main island of Hokkaido at a depth of 6.2 miles (10 kilometers) at 11:23 a.m. Friday (0223 GMT). The epicenter was about 280 kilometers (174 miles) east of Hokkaido. Police official Esao Akatsuka said he received no reports of damage. He said, "Nothing fell off from bookshelves." Japan is one of the world's most earthquake-prone countries. In 1995, a magnitude-7.2 quake in the western port city of Kobe killed 6,400 people.

World

Uzbeks allege rapes, say troops let violence occur

OSH, Kyrgyzstan (AP)—An estimated 400,000 people—nearly one-twelfth the population—have fled their homes to escape Kyrgyzstan's ethnic violence, the U.N. said Thursday as throngs of refugees huddled in grim camps along the Uzbekistan border without adequate food or water.

That figure represents half the roughly 800,000 ethnic Uzbeks who lived in Kyrgyzstan's south before Central Asia's worst ethnic violence in decades erupted there last week. More than 200 people—possibly many more—have been killed, and Uzbeks have been all but purged from some parts of the south.

Ethnic Uzbeks on Thursday accused security forces of standing by or even helping ethnic-majority Kyrgyz mobs as they slaughtered people and burned down neighborhoods. Col. Iskander Ikramov, the chief of the Kyrgyz military in the south, rejected allegations of troop involvement in the riots but said the army didn't interfere in the conflict because it was not supposed to play the role of a police force.

The military and police set up roadblocks and began patrols this week after the worst violence was over.

Israel loosens chokehold on Gaza

JERUSALEM (AP)—An Israeli decision Thursday to ease its blockade of Gaza under intense international pressure could spell the beginning of the end of the chokehold that has hurt ordinary Gazans far more than their militant Hamas rulers.

The order to allow in all foods and some desperately needed construction materials brought calls for Israel to go much further and did little to quell the global outcry over the deadly flotilla raid that tried to bust the embargo.

With a naval blockade in place and Israel giving no indication it will lift a ban on Gaza exports, Palestinians dismissed the move as cosmetic.

Yet the announcement was an unmistakable sign of Israeli leaders' extreme discomfort with the damage the bloody May 31 flotilla raid has done to their country's international standing—and an indication the blockade's days may be numbered.

Israel made its decision after consultations with U.S. and European officials, and a week after President Barack Obama—whose relations with Israel's hard-line government have been rocky—called the embargo unsustainable and urged that it be scaled back dramatically.

Clinton-led commission starts up in Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)—Former U.S. President Bill Clinton officially inaugurated the commission overseeing Haiti's post-earthquake reconstruction on Thursday, pledging to accelerate and organize a process that has raised less than 1 percent of the money promised by international donors.

The Interim Haiti Reconstruction Commission aims to oversee every rebuilding dollar that comes to Haiti through next year. The hope is that it will ensure transparency and encourage investment, helping transform a dysfunctional, cripplingly poor country crushed by the Jan. 12 earthquake into a self-sustaining nation with a prosperous middle class.

"The prime minister and I have made a commitment to the people of Haiti and the people of the world to make this process both transparent and accountable," Clinton told reporters before the meeting.

Outside the cracked, upscale hotel where it met in a convention room, a better future seems a long way off. More than five months after Port-au-Prince shook, collapsed buildings line the streets and families live under leaky tarps at risk from floods, hunger and disease. Rebuilding has been hampered by organizational problems, government disfunction and the scale of the disaster itself.

WORLD BRIEFS

Peruvian judge to ask van der Sloot about killing

LIMA, Peru (AP)—A judge expects to interrogate Joran van der Sloot next week about the killing of a 21-year-old Peruvian woman in his hotel room. Court officials said in a statement that Judge Carlos Morales will travel Monday to the prison where the 22-year-old suspect is being held. His questions will focus on the May 30 killing of Stephany Flores. Chilean police say Van der Sloot has confessed to killing Flores. Thursday's statement said Morales will pass along any information to pertinent authorities if Van der Sloot discusses the 2005 disappearance of Natalee Holloway, a case in which he also is the prime suspect. Van der Sloot has said he is ready to talk about the case, but only to Aruban authorities.

al-Qaida in Iraq adopting Taliban tactics

BAGHDAD (AP)—An al-Qaida in Iraq front group claimed responsibility Thursday for an unusual attack more typical of the Taliban in Afghanistan—a commando-style assault in which suicide bombers wearing military uniforms stormed the Central Bank during rush hour in Baghdad. The hours-long attack differed from the Iraqi terror network's trademark car and truck bombings, a shift in tactics as the group struggles to regroup after being routed in a series of U.S.-Iraqi offensives. Experts said the complex nature of the attack suggested the group's new leadership could be taking cues from the Taliban's success with similar operations in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Al-Qaida in Iraq has been blamed for many of the deadly suicide strikes that have targeted the Foreign Ministry and other government institutions over the past year.

Colombian coal mine blast kills 16, traps dozens

AMAGA, Colombia (AP)—Relatives held a resigned vigil Thursday outside a coal mine in northwestern Colombia where dozens of miners were trapped and feared dead after an explosion that killed at least 16 workers. The fiery blast at the San Fernando mine, believed caused by a methane gas buildup, tore through an access tunnel that is some 1.2 miles (about 2 kilometers) long and drops to a depth of 500 feet (150 meters). Officials said there were 70 to 80 workers in the mine at the time. Provincial disaster coordinator John Rendon said the Wednesday night blast collapsed part of the tunnel. But Antioquia state mining secretary Nicolas Lopez said rescue workers who had been able to get 700 meters into the tunnel and had found it intact. The tunnel has cement-reinforced steel arches, he said, but high levels of methane and carbon monoxide were impeding the entry of rescue workers down to extraction areas where most of the trapped workers were believed located.

Maharlika
PINOY LIFE IN THE MARIANAS
Saturday, June 19, 2010

Chef shares his talent with free culinary classes

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

For Chef Hermie Coronejo, learning the art of cooking cannot be done in one sitting.

"Even those working in hotels, I see that a few of them don't know what they're doing sometimes," Coronejo said in his native language.

Before he started working on Saipan 18 years ago, Coronejo worked for Cravings, a famous restaurant in the Philippines. Now a chef at Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan, Coronejo also serves as the instructor of the culinary arts class offered by the Philippine Overseas Labor Office. Coronejo teaches his "students" how to prepare different kinds of appetizers, soups, salads, rice dishes, and main courses.

Coronejo has been teaching culinary arts at POLO since 2004.

"I always see great improvement from my class. Some of my students even start their own business," Coronejo said.

So when Consul General Medardo Macaraig challenged them to prepare the buffet for the June 13 Independence Day celebration, Coronejo and the rest of the class gladly consented.

"It's a way to assess if they were ready to graduate from the class and a means to make them realize that they can apply what they learned from the class," he explained.

Right after their three-hour class last June 12, Coronejo and his 60 students began working and toiled round the clock.

One sleepless night after, Coronejo's class presented with great pride the fruits of their hard labor.

"I felt excited, embarrassed and nervous all at the same time. I can't explain how I feel. The fatigue and exhaustion was all worth it," Coronejo said.

However, he admitted that he was worried at one point. As instructor, he was responsible for the outcome. "You have to be aware that if the students are not able to do their tasks, you know that as a teacher, you are responsible for it," Coronejo explained.

He said the task became easier because everyone was supportive. "It's a great feeling knowing that we worked hard for it," he said.

To motivate the class, Coronejo told them to imagine as if it was their mothers who will eat the food they will serve. "So you have to give it your best shot," he said.

CLARISSA DAVID

Chef Hermie Coronejo is photographed at the sushi station of World Cafe Restaurant at Fiesta Resort Saipan. Coronejo and the students of the culinary arts class offered by the Philippine Overseas Labor Office prepared the buffet during the celebration of Philippine Independence Day last June 13.

It's in the blood

Coronejo believes that cooking runs in his family's blood. His father, during his prime years, was also in the culinary profession.

A father of two, Coronejo said it's his 18-year-old son's turn to wear the apron.

"He is currently taking up Hotel and Restaurant Management and told me that he wants to take up a two-year culinary course," Coronejo said.

According to Coronejo, he never really asked his son to follow in his footsteps. "I guess he really got to liking the food service [industry]," he said.

As a father, Coronejo is more than willing to support his son if he really wants to pursue this course. "I will be willing to sell our piece of land in Tagaytay so we can pay for the P300,000 tuition," he said.

Coronejo, who last went home to the Philippines about two years ago, said that being away from his family is a price he is willing to pay just to provide them a good education.

His children have rewarded him adequately enough. His daughter is now a certified nurse in the Philippines.

"I always remind them to be humble," Coronejo said.

CLARISSA DAVID

Philippine Consul General Medardo Macaraig leads the cutting of the cake during the celebration of the 112th Independence Day at the Filipino Workers Resource Center last June 13.

CLARISSA DAVID

Ed Elenzano, aka Dragon Edong, poses with the fruit carvings he made for the Philippine Independence Day buffet hosted by the Philippine Consulate.

UFO gears up for Liberation Day

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

After the success of Pistang Pinoy 2010, the United Filipino Organization is preparing for the next big community event, the Liberation Day celebration on July 4.

The monthlong Liberation Day festivities began with the opening of the Liberation carnival grounds to the public on June 4 and culminates on July 4 with a float competition and parade.

UFO president Olive Yana told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that they have already invited member organizations to ask their members who would like to be part of the marching unit for the parade on July 4.

Yana also said that they are already in the process of finalizing their design for the float as part of the preparations for the Liberation Day parade.

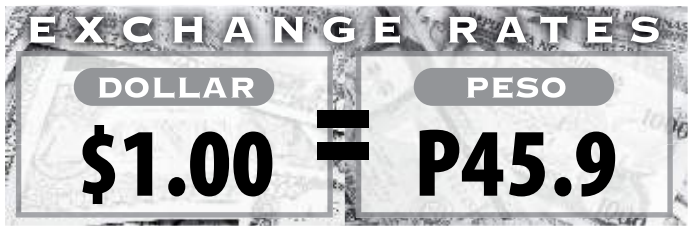
The float must adhere to this year's theme, "Celebrating Youth, Our Leaders of Tomorrow."

Once they finalize the design, they will start the construction of the float, which will take about four days, Yana added.

According to Yana, their budget for the float is between $1,000 to $2,000. The proceeds from Pistang Pinoy 2010 will be utilized for the float.

Aside from the float, Yana said the UFO is also actively supporting one of the Liberation Day Queen candidates, Marie Kastel Tambiga.

Both UFO and the Saipan Marianas Lions Club are assisting Tambiga in selling the 1,500 tickets that were initially issued by the Saipan Mayor's Office.



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Villar richest; Marcos, Romualdez, 4 Arroyos also on House list

By LEILA B. SALAVERRIA
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

She's no longer a billionaire, but Las Piñas Rep. Cynthia Villar remains the richest lawmaker in the House of Representatives, much like her husband who is the wealthiest senator in the land.

The four Arroyos in the House are also among the most well-off among their peers since they are included in the top 30 richest among the 270 members of the House, according to the records of their assets, liabilities and net worth they submitted to the chamber.

By contrast, Anakpawis party-list Rep. Rafael Mariano retained the distinction of being the poorest lawmaker.

Villar's net worth as of Dec. 31, 2009, stood at P947.883 million, down from P1.046 billion in 2008.

The second-richest lawmaker is Leyte Rep. Ferdinand Martin Romualdez, who has P477.263 million in assets and no liabilities. In 2008, his net worth stood at P477.205 million.

In third place is frequent absentee Negros Occidental Rep. Julio Ledesma, who has a net worth of P447.529 million. He reported the same net worth in 2008.

Marcos Jr.

Ledesma was followed by Ilocos Norte Rep. Ferdinand Marcos Jr., an incoming senator whose assets stand at P315.550 million. He has no liabilities. In 2008, Marcos was the eighth richest lawmaker, with a net worth of P179.98 million.

The fifth richest lawmaker is Iloilo Rep. Judy Syjuco, who has P288.514 million in assets and no liabilities. She was also No. 5 in 2008, with a net worth of P265.518 million.

Among the four Arroyos, the richest is President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's brother-in-law, Negros Occidental Rep. Ignacio "Iggy" Arroyo, whose net worth stands at P138.541 million. In 2008, he ranked 13th with a net worth of P140.357 million.

Mikey Arroyo

The President's sons ranked 22nd and 27th. Pampanga Rep. Juan Miguel "Mikey" Arroyo is No. 22 with a net worth of P101.347 million, while Camarines Sur Rep. Diosdado "Dato" Arroyo is at No. 27 with a net worth of P90.393 million.

In 2008, Mikey was 23rd in the list with a net worth of P99.247 million, while Dato was 28th with P89.053 million.

Ms Arroyo's sister-in-law, Kasangga party-list Rep. Ma. Lourdes Arroyo, is No. 29, having a net worth of P88.654 million.

Nikki Prieto, Glenda Ecleo

The rest of the top 10 richest lawmakers are Tarlac Rep. Monica "Nikki" Prieto Teodoro (P231.253 million); Iloilo Rep. Ferjenel Biron (P192.071); Dinagat Rep. Glenda Ecleo (P166.400 million); Pampanga Rep. Aurelio Gonzales (P158.488 million); and Zambales Rep. Antonio Diaz (P153.718 million).

In 11th place is Quezon Rep. Danilo Suarez, who has a net worth of P151.668 million. Suarez created a stir last year when he admitted to footing the bill for a $15,000 dinner for Ms Arroyo and her party at the Bobby Van's Steakhouse in Washington.

San Jose del Monte Rep. Arturo Robes was the fourth richest lawmaker in 2008, with a net worth of P441.169 million. But Robes landed in the 108th spot in 2009, with a net worth of P25.535 million.

Nograles

Speaker Prospero Nograles is the 33rd richest, with a net worth of P75.711 million. He was ranked 29th in 2008, with a net worth of P88.261 million.

There are eight lawmakers who have a net worth of less than P1 million.

Mariano has P42,219.11 in assets and no liabilities, making him the poorest lawmaker.

Bayan Muna Rep. Teodoro Casiño has a net worth of P118,000, while Anakpawis Rep. Joel Maglunsod is worth P145,000. Kabataan Rep. Raymond Palatino has a net worth of P150,000, and TUCP Rep. Raymond Mendoza is worth P270,000.

Alliance of Rural Concerns Rep. Narciso Santiago III, a son of Sen. Miriam Defensor Santiago, has P700,000 in assets and no liabilities. Bohol Rep. Adam Jala, a son of a former lawmaker Eladio Jala, has assets worth P782,000 and no liabilities.

EARTHQUAKE DRILL AP

A rescuer carries a supposed victim as he uses a line to transfer into a safer building during the National Earthquake Drill Friday, June 18, 2010 at the Ortigas commercial center in suburban Pasig City, east of Manila, Philippines. Authorities are checking on their preparedness in case of a disaster as the archipelago lies in the Pacific Ring of Fire where earthquakes are common.

German hotel executive shot dead in central Manila

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A German executive with the luxury Shangri-La hotel chain was shot dead Thursday on his way to work in Manila's upscale Makati financial district, police said. Authorities have ruled out robbery as a motive.

Sergio Mazza, an executive assistant manager for food and beverage of the Makati Shangri-La hotel, had just left his apartment when a gunman in a cap and jacket shot him at close range, said Superintendent Froilan Bonifacio, citing witnesses.

Bonifacio, the Makati police chief, said more than 20,000 pesos ($433) in cash, jewelry and a Blackberry phone were left on Mazza's body.

"We already ruled out the possibility of robbery hold-up," Bonifacio told The Associated Press. "We're trying to establish if a personal motive was behind this killing."

He described Mazza, 38, as a good-looking bachelor known to have had an active night life. He said investigators were looking into whether Mazza had made any enemies.

Crime is rampant and guns are easily available in the Philippines, but security is tight in Makati, where foreign embassies and multinational companies are located.

"We are extremely saddened by this loss and would like to express our sincerest condolences to his family," Shangri-La said in a statement, adding that it was working closely with the police.

German Embassy officials could not immediately be reached for comment.

Gunmen abduct fisherman in southern RP

ZAMBOANGA, Philippines (AP)—Gunmen abducted a fisherman Thursday in a southern city a day after authorities celebrated the safe rescue of a Filipino-Swiss businessman who endured two months of jungle captivity, officials said.

Vicente Barrios, 60, was returning to Zamboanga city after checking fish cages at sea when five men aboard two vessels blocked his motorboat and seized him. A companion of Barrios jumped into the water and swam to safety, police said.

Zamboanga city Mayor Celso Lobregat said that he would form a crisis committee to deal with the latest abduction. On Wednesday, Lobregat presented to the media Charlie Reith, who was rescued by navy commandos while being moved by his kidnappers to Zamboanga's farflung Labuan coastal town.

"We really have to get these kidnappers otherwise this will go on and on," Lobregat told The Associated Press.

Al-Qaida-linked Abu Sayyaf militants and other allied armed groups have been blamed for several kidnappings for ransom in Zamboanga and the nearby islands of Basilan and Jolo in recent months, but it was not clear who was behind Barrios' abduction, police said.

Police Chief Inspector Ricardo Garcia said a search was under way for Barrios.

Reith, a 72-year-old businessman, was abducted by gunmen on April 4 from a beach resort in Zamboanga. Hours after his rescue, troops killed one of his suspected kidnappers but two others escaped by boat, the military said.

Reith, who has diabetes and a heart ailment, said he and his captors constantly moved on rough terrain across valleys and a mountain range. He said he was not aware which group abducted him and that he gave names to his abductors, including "Smoking Joe," who constantly puffed in the wilderness.

Authorities initially suspected the Abu Sayyaf was behind Reith's abduction. Rear Adm. Alex Pama, who helped supervise his rescue, however, said the kidnappers appeared to have been allied with another rebel group, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

Abu Sayyaf militants are also notorious for beheadings and deadly bombings. The larger Moro rebel front has been fighting for Muslim self-rule in the south for decades.

ASK Dr. NOET

What is the best way to start an investment?

By DR. JOHNNY NOET RAVALO
INQUIRER.NET

I am Erick, 23 years old, and work in a call center. I earn P20,000 a month and barely spend this amount since I am single and live with my parents. But my problem is that I find my wallet empty at the end of the month inspite of having more than what I need. I am just wondering what is the best way to start an investment?

Investors need to be aware of the risks in different investment options and to know more about financial institutions. Investors are not—should not—be passive players in the market; it is our saving, our capital, if not our future tax burden, that is at stake.

The question is: How?

This is the question before Erick. People will advise him on how to make sure that his P20,000 a month is properly allocated into productive use. Some prefer rules, i.e. x-percent to pay yourself, y-percent for this need and z-percent on others. Some prefer a more flexible allocation which includes identifying—and doing away with—all the overlooked expenses that tie him down.

At the end of the day, given a fixed amount of monthly income, Erick needs to set aside a targetted amount of regular saving. Obviously, without some saving, the question of investment is academic.

Saving without a clear idea of where that saving will go often does not turn people into regular savers. Having funds lying idle somewhere is tempting. It is so much more fun to spend than to save, so I do not bet on self-control too much.

Erick simply needs a goal. After that comes the hard part. Admonishing investors to take due-diligence seriously is easy enough to convey. Making it happen is completely a different problem.

At the heart of the issue is financial literacy and what drives that is information. It is important to first get a feel of what it is like to invest before you take on more challenging product lines.

A useful place to start will be Treasury Bills simply because they are a short-term placement and are guaranteed by the government (theoretically no possibility of default). You will have to go through a broker of your choice who can place the order for you. He should tell you what variants are out in the market.

Basic bank products provide another option. Time deposits, for example, are also short-term placements. If the bank, for some reason, is closed before your deposit comes due, you may recover up to the limit provided by the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp.

But don't expect to get rich quickly from Treasury Bills or time deposits. The idea is for you to get into the habit of setting aside a part of your P20,000 a month so that it can fund your desired initial investments. Once you get the hang of it and better understand the nuances (for example, the tax laws or the requirements for 3rd-party custodians or working through brokers) of market operations, then you can start exploring other product lines and longer-term instruments.

The fact that you are asking is a very good sign. But for the question to have any real value, you will have to act on it.

Let me end by tempting your imagination. Can you imagine what the cumulative value would be if you invest P10,000 a month regularly for 1-month placements and continuously rolling over at a modest 3.0 percent per year for 30 years? It is P5,841,937.27. Not bad, don't you think?

Noet Ravalo is a macro-financial economist by practice and profession. He was chief economist of the Bankers Association of the Philippines until 2002 and has since been doing consulting work. Readers are solely responsible for their investment decisions and should thus conduct their own research and due diligence and obtain professional advice. INQUIRER.net will not be liable for any loss or damage caused by a reader's reliance on information obtained from this web site.

Maharlika – PinoyStyle

Greta unfairly cast as villain in RP show biz

By DOLLY ANNE CARVAJAL
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

What would Pinoy show biz like if there were no personalities like Gretchen Barretto? Say what you will about her, but you have to agree that La Greta keeps things interesting.

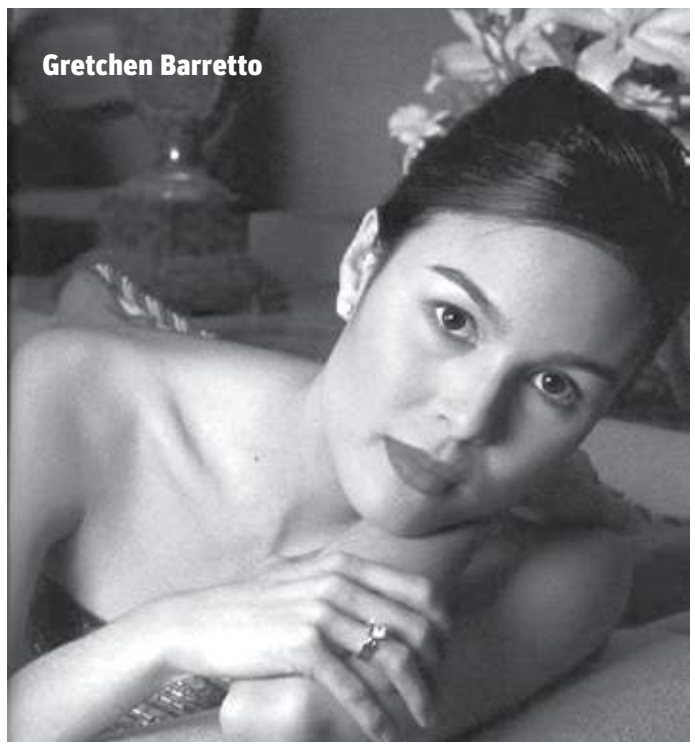
It's all about giving the public what they want, and Greta is a veteran who understands this. The problem is, when she fulfills this "role," she is often unfairly cast as a villain.

Take the latest intrigue surrounding her, Derek Ramsay and Angelica Panganiban. True to her personality, Greta made some playful remarks that were blown out of proportion. She assured me that this was done with absolutely no malice.

"Our role as actors and actresses is to portray authenticity," explained Gretchen. "Derek and I must strive for that chemistry, but at the end of the day, it is all just entertainment. Sometimes this spills over beyond the set pero 'yun lang 'yon, Dolly. It is just plain work, nothing more."

Angelica is a beautiful, talented young lady who has absolutely no reason to feel insecure. There are reports that her jealousy has reached a point where she staked-out the set of "Magkaribal," locking herself up in her Starex van until the taping ended. Perhaps Angel should realize that that's the way the show-biz world works, and a little teasing wouldn't hurt.

Pikon-talo is true in all aspects of life, but so much more magnified in show biz. Angelica and Derek's African holiday should give them enough time to strengthen their bond. But as soon as they leave the jungles of Africa, they must be ready, willing and able to face the wilder jungle that is show biz.


Gretchen Barretto

'PGT': Diversity saves a patience-trying 3 hours

By OLIVER PULUMBARIT
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—"Too Much Love" didn't kill Jovit Baldivino; it made him a weepy champ.

The first "Pilipinas Got Talent" grand winner received an overwhelming number of text votes (48.81 percent), beating 11 other finalists in the ABS-CBN reality-talent show. The 16-year-old Batangueño, who has been compared to Journey vocalist Arnel Pineda, sang Queen's "Too Much Love Will Kill You" on last Saturday's grand finals show, and again after he was declared winner the next night at the Araneta Coliseum.

Interesting mix

Baldivino brought home P2 million; runner-up dance groups Velasco Brothers and Baguio Metamorphosis, P100,000 each.

he last two nights featured finalists with disparate abilities, much like the show's foreign progenitor and counterparts, so it was an interesting mix of singers, musicians, and non-musical artists (specifically, a magician and a ventriloquist).

These finalists performed with Gary Valenciano and bands Kjwan and Sugarfree, among other guests. Those that did not make it to the top three received P50,000 each.

Saturday's show ran over a patience-testing three hours, but the diversity of talents kept us from tuning out and dozing off. The three judges, Ai Ai de las Alas, Kris Aquino, and Freddie "Boss FMG" Garcia, didn't have criticisms for the finalists; in fact they were all-praise during the finals night.

Odd dynamic

While some may disagree with a number of their comments—not everybody gave sterling performances—the trio generated an odd, train wreck-ish dynamic.

De las Alas typically injected humor into her comments, and has gushed openly about the Velasco Brothers' energetic dance numbers for weeks. Aquino has invited the group more than once to perform at brother (and President-elect) Noynoy's inauguration. Characteristically, Aquino also managed to sneak in unexpected (expected?) comments that put "FMG" on the spot by suggesting that he should finance the funds-challenged Baguio Metamorphosis in a dance competition abroad.

A man with very few words, Garcia often came off as leaden and too formal, overshadowed by his two more vocal and sometimes gauche co-judges. Perhaps he balances out that equation, but he needs to be more descriptive for TV.

The RP version's Ant and Dec counterparts, hosts Luis Manzano and Billy Crawford, performed their tasks ably, almost seamlessly segueing contestants' well-wishing kin, performances, and judges' comments.

Amy Perez deals with poorest of the poor, and mad men, too, on TV5 show

By BAYANI SAN DIEGO JR.
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

In the middle of an interview on the TV5 show "Face to Face," host Amy Perez says she realized that the lovelorn guest in front of her was "mentally disturbed."

What's a TV host to do?

Should she (a) cue for a commercial break; (b) feign ignorance; or (c) call a spade a spade and walk out?

In such an awkward situation, Perez says she decided to "treat the guest with respect. I still valued his right to love. I gave importance to his story."

More tolerant

After doing 60 episodes of the talk show, which mostly deals with the legal and romantic problems of "the poorest of the poor," Perez admits she has become "more tolerant" and listens "more intently."

She feels like she's back in school. Perez was a junior Psychology major in Sienna College

TV5 show "Face to Face," host Amy Perez

when she dropped out. "Now, on every episode, I deal regularly with different people with just as diverse problems," she notes.

Then there's the issue of exploitation. She makes certain that, unlike its US counterpart, "The Jerry Springer Show," "Face to Face" will not exploit its predominantly marginalized, impoverished guests and, instead, avoid treating them like circus freaks or fighting cocks in a pit.

Raw nerve

Unlike on Springer's show, Perez points to a panel of experts oncam that dispense free legal, psychological or even spiritual counseling to the troubled guests.

"Atty. Persida Acosta shares legal advice, informing them of their rights and responsibilities as citizens. Dr. Camille Garcia is a psychologist; she listens with heart and compassion. We have two priests who alternate on the panel—Fr. Sonny Merida and Fr. Gerry Tapiador," Perez explains.

Obviously the show has touched a raw nerve, she says. "After two months on the air, people call or write to us to volunteer their stories."

The show has posted double-digit ratings (12 percent and 40 percent audience share) and has expanded its airing schedule—twice daily, in the morning and at night, Monday to Friday. Plus a Sunday episode.

USDA NRCS
United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Farm Bill 2008

Fact Sheet:
Conservation Stewardship Program

Overview
The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) encourages agricultural and forestry producers to address resource concerns by (1) undertaking additional conservation activities and (2) improving and maintaining existing conservation systems.

Eligibility
CSP is available to all producers, regardless of operation size or crops produced, in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the Caribbean and Pacific Island areas. Eligible lands include cropland, grassland, improved pastureland, rangeland, nonindustrial private forest land, and agricultural land under the jurisdiction of an Indian tribe.

Applicants must:
- Be the operator of record in the USDA farm records management system for the eligible land being offered for enrollment;
- Have effective control of the land for the term of the proposed contract;
- Be in compliance with the highly erodible land and wetland conservation provisions

Benefits to Participants
CSP pays participants for conservation performance—the higher the performance, the higher the payment. Contracts are five years in length. Participants who are historically underserved producers may receive a minimum payment of $1,000 if the contract amount in any given year is less than that amount.

How CSP Works
NRCS makes CSP available on a nationwide basis through continuous sign-up, with announced cut-off dates for ranking and funding applications. PIA critical resource concerns are soil quality, soil erosion, water quality, plant and animal resources. Applications are evaluated and ranked relative to other applications that address similar resource concerns in the State. In the ranking process, producers get credit both for conservation measures they have already implemented and for new measures they agree to add. Agricultural land and nonindustrial private forest land applications are ranked separately.

Potential applicants are encouraged to determine whether CSP is the right program for them by completing the self-screening checklist and downloading the CSP Conservation Activity List to identify new conservation activities they might install. Because some conservation enhancements work better when implemented as a group, the activity list identifies enhancement "bundles" that receive both higher rankings and higher payments.

If an applicant is preapproved for funding, NRCS requests the applicant's conservation activity records and conducts on-site field verification to ensure that the information provided is accurate. Once the information is verified, NRCS and the applicant proceed to develop the contract.

More Information
For more information on CSP, visit www.nrcs.usda.gov/new_csp. The local NRCS Field Office can also answer any questions about the program and provide applications. The contact information is as follows Guam Field Office at 735-2111 or the Saipan Field Office at 236-0888.

Application deadline for signup is June 25, 2010

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Maharlika – Opinyon

Tests of leadership

Elena Bautista-Horn has an interesting proposition, or challenge.

"When you become the president, you become the president of the entire nation—not just of your friends, relatives or supporters. (Noynoy Aquino) should also be the president of his enemies, of his critics. I think, this is a first test of the Aquino administration: how (it) will reach out to all the different camps in the country."

The idea is not a new one and was only recently voiced out by Barack Obama in his victory speech: "To those Americans whose support I have yet to earn: I may not have won your vote tonight, but I hear your voices, I need your help, and I will be your president too."

It is a fine sentiment—in the right context.

Horn's context—Aquino's decision to fire Delfin Bangit as AFP chief—is the wrong one. Of course, Noynoy ought to fire Bangit, as indeed Ephraim Genuino, and all the other midnight appointees, at least to the extent that they exist only at the pleasure, or sufferance, of the president. The Chief Justice is another matter entirely. Indeed, if it should be proven, as it should easily be proven, that GMA never had the mandate to rule, "Hello, Garci" voiding it completely, then all her appointments, including the Chief Justice's should be considered moot and academic.

The firing of Bangit is not a matter of whim, it is a matter of common sense. The post of AFP chief of staff is a sensitive one, to put it mildly. You are the president, you cannot afford to have a chief of staff whose loyalties lie elsewhere—or potentially so as this is a country where loyalties have shorter shelf lives than vegetables. But if someone is a balimbing, then there's even less reason to trust him. You never know if you would end up with a squad firing at you during a victory parade, like Anwar Sadat.

The principle is not to reconcile with enemies, it is to reconcile with principled enemies. There is a difference. Noynoy himself already showed his capacity to discern it during the campaign with a senatorial roster that included Danilo Lim and Riza Hontiveros. Lim was a leading figure in the coups against Cory, while Hontiveros was, and is, an activist and proud to be so. These are people you can, and ought to, unite with. The same senatorial roster did not include Bongbong Marcos and Jinggoy Estrada, beneficiaries of wrongdoing who have yet to show acts of contrition and penance. You may reconcile with enmity, you may not reconcile with iniquity.

There's The Rub

By CONRADO DE QUIROS
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

As president you may agree to bury the hatchet with your personal enemies; as president you may not agree to bury the cases against the people's enemies. Principled enemies you may wave the olive branch to, unprincipled ones you may only serve court summonses to.

That will be the first test of the Aquino presidency, how fast it will issue those summonses.

There's a sense however in which it is true that Noynoy ought to be the president of the entire nation and not just of his friends, relatives and supporters. I can understand why he would wish to keep his distance with the vice president-elect during their proclamation a couple of weeks ago. The vice president-elect was not his running mate. Human nature being what it is, you have to make allowances for hurts, friendship, sympathy, sensitivity, displays of personal loyalty. His running mate, and friend, was feeling raw, as Noynoy remarked, he was well within his rights to show commiseration for him, to vow unlimited access to him.

What I cannot understand is why he should continue to do that well afterward. Mar Roxas wants to challenge the "elect" part of the "vice president-elect," he is well within his rights to do so. But until he succeeds, Jojo Binay is the vice president of the land. During his press conference after the proclamation, Noynoy made a mantra of saying that all his actions—his appointments, his alliances, his relationships with people—will revolve around one thing and one thing only, which is what's good for the country. If his running mate does not have the class to say, "I may be hurting but I will not allow my personal hurts to get in the way of my president uniting this country," then Noynoy as president should have the class to say, "You may be hurting, but I will not let personal hurts, yours or mine, get in the way of what I have to do."

If you can unite with your enemies, you can most certainly unite with your friends, or at least with your non-enemies. Binay was one of those who spoke at Cory's necrological rites, a thing that would never have happened if anyone in Cory's family had objected to him. He has far more roots with Edsa than Noynoy's running mate. Far more than that, he has a far longer record in opposing Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo than Noynoy's running mate, for which GMA tried to oust him as mayor of Makati, a thing foiled only by his men showing a determination to engage Ronnie Puno's hatchet men in a fire fight. As basis for unity goes, that's not a fragile basis for it.

More than that, Binay carries the mandate of the people, Noynoy's running mate does not. Noynoy may not heed the voice of the voters when it applies only to him, he must heed the voice of the voters when it applies to the other elected officials too. The voice of the people takes precedence over the moans of individuals. It is the only thing that commands obedience. Noynoy wants to be a true leader, he has to be president of his nation and not of his party. Noynoy wants to be a true leader, he has to say not just, "To those who did not vote for me, I will be your president too," but also, "To those who did vote for me, even if they are not my own, I will be their president too."

Who knows? Maybe that will be the even bigger test of the Aquino presidency.

EDITORIAL

Champion student

Congressman-elect Manny Pacquiao surely isn't the only mint-new politician taking his additional responsibilities seriously, enough to put in extra time to do his homework, but he is certainly the most high-profile enrollee in a certificate course in recent memory. But Pacquiao's worldwide celebrity makes his decision to enroll in a two-week course at the Development Academy of the Philippines not only newsworthy for national media and international sports shows, but also inspirational for the many, the young especially, who look up to him.

To be sure, we do not know whether a forced immersion in the intricacies of "Legislation in a Development and Governance Framework" or even the pragmatically chosen "Liberal Party Philosophy of Governance" (two of several training modules especially prepared for Pacquiao, according to one report) will finally wean the boxing icon from the influence of controversy- clouded politicians like Luis "Chavit" Singson. We also do not know whether a crash course is effective; we suppose the critical success factors (to use the kind of management-speak that Pacquiao will be hearing more of these days) are not only the trainee's open mind but also the existence of a post-training support system.

But we join the many who think that Pacquiao is doing the right thing, simply by showing up for class. Because the public perception is that politicians value money and popularity (which, of course, Pacquiao enjoys to a remarkable degree) as the main qualifications for public office. The notion that a politician will study for the office he has already won is not necessarily new, but it is refreshing.

But perhaps we shouldn't be too surprised. Pacquiao has famously gone back to school to complete a high school diploma, and then to begin his college education. In other words, the decision to take the detour to the DAP is characteristic. Whether this is a reflection of his competitive nature, or his avidity for knowledge, or a combination of both or of other factors, doesn't really matter. What matters is that the many who follow his every move, including the young, can see the value he places, not so much on training per se or education as a whole, but on self-improvement.

It begins with a sense of humility. Interviewed at the DAP, Pacquiao offered a goal-oriented explanation for his decision to study for the work ahead. "Kailangan kong matutunan ang lahat ng paraan para makadeliver ako nang husto at maserbisyuhan nang mabuti ang aking constituents (I need to know all the ways I can fully deliver and serve my constituents well)." But the assumption behind that statement is, there are many things I still need to learn.

How many self-made billionaire athletes with a worldwide reputation can say that?

And that is why many Filipinos seemed to welcome the news that Pacquiao was back in (a different sort of) training camp. It sent a message that the work of self-improvement, which allows us to contribute our share to both nation and community, never ends.

A toddler in the museum

People know I visit museums regularly for work; it is part of my job as a historian and teacher to continue to learn. But what people find puzzling is the fact that I re-visit museums and look at things I have seen many times before. Most people visit a museum once during a school field trip and hardly think of returning. For example, why visit the National Museum more than once? Why view Juan Luna's "Spoliarium" repeatedly?

I visit Luna's historic painting regularly because I am awed by its size, repelled by the blood and gore in it, curious as to how it was painted in Rome in the early 1880s. How did this huge canvas fit in Luna's tiny apartment? I gaze at the painting and imagine Rizal in the Café Ingles in Madrid delivering the now famous toasting speech to commemorate the honors these Filipino painters brought to their country. During the 1884 Madrid Exposition of Fine Arts, Luna was awarded a gold medal for the "Spoliarium" and Felix Resurreccion Hidalgo won a silver medal for "Virgenes cristianas expuestas al populacho" (Christian virgins exposed to the mob).

Looking Back

By AMBETH OCAMPO
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Overheard in front of the "Spoliarium" recently were two people discussing the political message of the painting. Textbook history tells us that Luna made a political statement through art, that the painting is an indictment of the evils of colonialism. The same can be said of Resurreccion Hidalgo's prize-winning painting.

But anyone who has seen the film "Gladiator" will see the "Spoliarium" differently. Isn't this just a scene from ancient Roman history? If Luna painted a Philippine scene would he have won a gold medal? What did Luna really want to say?

To make things more confusing, there are people who claim that Luna's work was prophetic: it foretold the assassination of Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino Jr. in 1983. Luna painted a dead gladiator being dragged out of the basement of the Coliseum. This figure is superimposed on the series of photographs showing the body of Ninoy being dragged from the airport tarmac into an Avsecom van! Was Luna prophetic, or are we reading new meanings, new messages in an old painting?

I want to take my 6-year-old nephew to the National Museum because I am curious to hear his comments. How will he react to the "Spoliarium"? He hasn't been warped by textbook history, so he might provide new insights.

I took this toddler to the Ayala Museum recently just to see what exhibits would engage or bore him. He was drawn to the scale models of boats and stayed a while in front of a galleon. Of course, he did not know of the Manila-Acapulco Galleon Trade. His reference point was the film "Pirates of the Caribbean."

In the hall of the dioramas, he was drawn to scenes of battle, beginning with Lapu-lapu and Magellan fighting hand-to-hand in the waters of Mactan. He scrutinized weapons, asked about the vanquished. He ignored Rizal writing "Noli me tangere" and other dioramas that did not contain action or violence. He stayed a while with the diorama depicting Andres Bonifacio tearing his cedula in August 1896 and starting the Philippine Revolution. He also liked scenes from the Filipino-American War and the assassination of Antonio Luna.

Then while looking at the diorama on the capture of Macario Sacay, he exclaimed, "Look! They are killing Jesus!" Sacay did sport long hair and resemble Jesus. My nephew wasn't interested in my story about Sacay, but the adults asked whether he was a bandit or a hero.

My nephew was terrified in the dark rooms that remind us of martial law and the 1986 People Power Revolution. He clutched at my hand and pulled me out as the video showed Ferdinand Marcos declaring martial law. When he saw the exit sign he ran out and returned to the scale models of boats.

Paintings by Zobel and Manansala, ancient pottery from China and Southeast Asia, old textiles and clothing did not stir interest in the boy. But when we entered the gold exhibit, his eyes lit up. Here were 1,059 gold objects, excavated from archaeological sites with associated materials that provide a tentative dating from the 10th to the 13th century. We allowed him to roam around. He looked at the gold face masks, he opened the drawers containing intricate jewelry, he walked round the gallery twice and declared that this was his favorite part of the museum. Now he wants to be an archeologist/treasure hunter when he grows up and the reference point here is not academic, it's the Indiana Jones movies.

This semester my college students are required to visit the National Museum and the Ayala Museum. What will they make of their visits? How do they transcend boredom or the initial resistance to a school requirement and make the past relevant to their times?

Academics look at the gold exhibit in the Ayala Museum differently. These objects are placed in their historical context and become clues to life in pre-Spanish Philippines. These objects are evidence of wealth, status, social stratification, belief in an afterlife, and trade with China and our Southeast Asian neighbors. But on a gut level, gold dazzles.

Seeing all this makes Filipinos realize that, contrary to popular belief, our ancestors were not barbarians when Magellan arrived in 1521. These makes the depressed 21st-century Filipino know that some time in the distant past, we literally had a golden age.

Comments are welcome in my Facebook Fan Page.

Maharlika – Samu't Sari

TOP STUDENTS

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The top students of Dandan Elementary School pose with the school officials after the promotions ceremony held yesterday on campus.

BAPTISM

Welcome to the Christian world, Zoe Franzine Lopez! Greetings come from Mommy Ethel Mata and Daddy Jhoe Lopez.

CLARISSA DAVID

CLARISSA DAVID

Herman's Bakery staff join Jhoe Lopez and his mom Ofelia Lopez in celebrating the baptism of Jhoe's daughter, Zoe Franzine.

Jhoe Lopez is joined by friends from DFS Galleria in celebrating his daughter Zoe Franzine's christening at the Aoi Restaurant of the Saipan Grand Hotel.

CLARISSA DAVID

PISTANG PINOY

Officers and members of United Filipino Organization pose for a group photo at their booth during Pistang Pinoy 2010 last June 13 at the Civic Center in Susupe.

CLARISSA DAVID

Rannie, Isabel, and daughter Ren-ren join in the revelry during Pistang Pinoy 2010 held on June 13 at the Civic Center in Susupe.

CLARISSA DAVID

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

PAROLE APPLICANTS

Three of four long-term alien workers review the documents for parole-in-place status that they took from the Federal Ombudsman's Office on Thursday. Many alien workers have been trooping to the Ombudsman's Office in the last two weeks as different rumors spread about the submission of such documents.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Advanced happy birthday and happy Father's Day to grandpa Luis Reyes (Onio). We hope you enjoy your special day. Love you always, Tricia, Jayboy, TJ, LRock, Louie, Luther, Keoni and Kirida.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday to my loving sister, Joylina Kaipat Aldan, who is celebrating her special day today, June 19, 2010, with wishes for many more birthdays to come. Greetings come from Jocelyn Kapileo.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

Happy Father's Day to Manny Kisa, a great father, husband, and friend! Thank your for your sacrifices and hard work and for being a loving father and husband. Greetings come from your wife Maricar and kids Joseph and Joshua.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

YoungStyle

1,000 NYC students walk out to save free rides

By MARC BEJA
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—About 1,000 New York City high school students chanted "This is what democracy looks like!" and waved homemade signs and banners Friday as they marched across the Brooklyn Bridge to protest a plan to eliminate their free transit passes.

The students walked out of classrooms all over the city at noon and converged at City Hall Park for a rally with elected officials and transit union members.

Then they marched across the bridge for a second rally near the former headquarters of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority in Brooklyn.

Fernando Matos, 17, a student at Samuel Gompers High School in the Bronx, said that without a free transit pass he would have to transfer to a different school.

"I do not want to go to a local high school," Matos said. "It doesn't have the classes I need."

The protest comes a day after Mayor Michael Bloomberg announced a stepped-up effort to fight truancy.

Bloomberg said Friday that the students should have stayed in class.

"If I were them, I'd just think long and hard someday," he said. "If I didn't pass a test, I'd always go back and wonder, 'Was it that afternoon when I was trying to be cute and be out there and picketing was better than being in class?'"

More than 500,000 city students receive free or reduced-fare MetroCards to get to and from school.

The transportation agency has proposed ending the free rides as part of its effort to close an $800 million budget gap.

The city contributed $45 million to the program last year while New York State paid only $6 million.

Bloomberg said the protesting students should demand that the state Legislature kick in more.

"We are not going to make up for the state," he said in his weekly radio address. "We just cannot do that."

Without the free passes, families would be forced to buy monthly MetroCards at a cost of about $1,000 a year per child.

AP

Adriana Cortez, 15, and Jenersy Gomez Garcia, 15, above of Hillcrest High School join other high school students as they walk across the Brooklyn Bridge to protest budget cuts in the student MetroCard program Friday, June 11, 2010 in New York.

"That's money you're taking away from buying them books," said Debbie Officer, a mother of two from Brooklyn who joined the protest.

Vladimir Edouard, 16, who attends the School for Democracy and Leadership in Brooklyn, said his parents would have to sacrifice to pay for his MetroCard.

"My mom would probably have to get a second job to pay for my sister and I to get to school," he said.

Sharon Litaker, a special education teacher at Banana Kelly High School in the Bronx, attended the rally to support her students.

"I just walked out," she said. "A lot of families lost their jobs. They don't have the extra income to pay for their children's MetroCards."

The rally was organized by a group called the Urban Youth Collaborative. The students took up half the length of the bridge as they marched to Brooklyn shouting "The students, united, will never be defeated!" Drivers honked their horns and cheered as the students spilled off the bridge and into Brooklyn.

A spokesman for the Department of Education said that any disciplinary action the students might face for cutting class would be up to their principals.

The citywide high school attendance rate Friday was a lower-than-usual 69.8 percent. New York City public schools students were off Thursday for a staff development day, and many may have taken a four-day weekend.

AP

Jennifer Ortiz, 19, joins other high school students gather near City Hall to protest budget cuts in the student MetroCard program Friday, June 11, 2010 in New York.

Toy soldiers run afoul of school's weapons ban

By MICHELLE R. SMITH
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP)—Christan Morales said her son just wanted to honor American troops when he wore a hat to school decorated with an American flag and small plastic Army figures.

But the school banned the hat because it ran afoul of the district's zero-tolerance weapons policy. Why? The toy soldiers were carrying tiny guns.

"His teacher called and said it wasn't appropriate," Morales said.

Morales' 8-year-old son, David, had been assigned to make a hat for the day when his second-grade class would meet their pen pals from another school. She and her son came up with an idea to add patriotic decorations to a camouflage hat.

Earlier this week, after the hat was banned, the principal at the Tiogue School in Coventry told the family that the hat would be fine if David replaced the Army men holding weapons with ones that didn't have any, according to Superintendent Kenneth R. Di Pietro.

But, Morales said, the family had only one Army figure without a weapon (he was carrying binoculars), so David wore a plain baseball cap on the day of the pen pal meeting.

"Nothing was being done to limit patriotism, creativity, other than find an alternative to a weapon," Di Pietro said.

The district does not allow images of weapons or drugs on clothing. For example, a student would not be permitted to wear a shirt with a picture of a marijuana leaf on it, the superintendent said.

The principal "wasn't denying the patriotism," he said. "That just is the wrong and unfair image of one of our finest principals."

On Thursday, Di Pietro and the principal met with the retired commander of the Rhode Island National Guard, at the commander's request.

Lt. Gen. Reginald Centracchio praised the school system for supporting the military in the past, including with a junior ROTC program.

But he said he disagreed with the decision to ban the hat and hoped it offered a chance for the school to review its policies.

"The American soldier is armed. That's why they're called the armed forces," he said. "If you're going to portray it any other way, you miss the point."

He said he intends to give David a medal to express veterans' appreciation that he would pay tribute to their service.

Morales said her son was inspired to honor the military after striking up a friendship last summer with a neighbor in the Army.

Banning the hat "sent the wrong message to the kids, because it wasn't in any way to cause any harm to anyone," she said. "You're talking about Army men. This wasn't about guns."

AP

This image made from video provided by WPRI on Thursday, June 17, 2010 shows a hat created by 8-year-old David Morales to honor American troops, for an assignment to decorate a hat in his second-grade class at Tiogue School in Coventry, R.I. School officials told him he could not wear the cap he decorated, saying it violated the district's no-weapons policy because the toy soldiers were carrying tiny weapons.

AP

This image made from video provided by WPRI on Thursday, June 17, 2010 shows David Morales wearing a cap he created to honor American troops to fulfill an assignment to decorate a hat in his second-grade class at Tiogue School in Coventry, R.I.

Mr. Potato Head adding an Elvis version

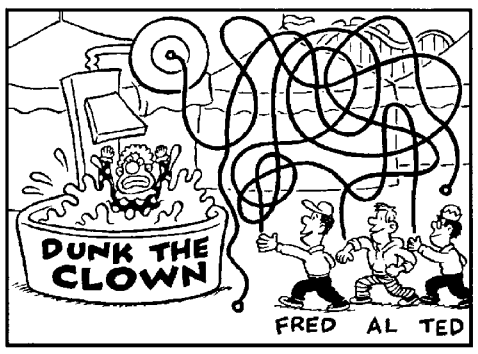
MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—The Elvis Presley estate has signed a deal for Hasbro Inc. and PPW Toys to release an Elvis version of Mr. Potato Head.

Kevin Kern, a spokesman for Presley's Graceland estate, told The Commercial Appeal the new toy is one of 15,000 Elvis-licensed products and is one the company is excited about.

The first of the Elvis potato heads will be released for Elvis Tribute Week in August. The toy will be in a jumpsuit. A second version—with the likeness dressed in black leather—will be on the market for Christmas.

PPW Toys spokesman Dean Gorby said the Elvis Mr. Potato Head will broaden the audience from young fans to adult toy collectors.

Information from: The Commercial Appeal, http://www.commercialappeal.com



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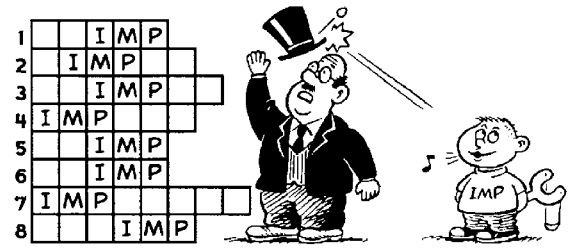
CLOWNING AROUND! Which of these "lefties" gave Dusty the Clown a quick bath?

Answers: Fred was right on target.

Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend

A DEVILISH WORD CONTEST!



Illustrated by David Coulson

In the grid shown here, there is room for eight "impish" words. Each contains the word "IMP." Using the following hints, see if you can solve this puzzle before our friend finds another target.

1. A light way to travel.
2. What a teen-ager hates.
3. To complain and whine.
4. To obstruct the progress of.
5. To be stingy with.
6. Tarzan's friend.
7. Regal or majestic.
8. To be frugal.

Answers: 1. Blimp. 2. Pimple. 3. Whimper. 4. Impede. 5. Skimp. 6. Chimp. 7. Imperial. 8. Scrimp.

A TRICKY QUICKIE! To the right is an incorrect equation. Can you make it correct by adding one straight line to it?

11+11+1 = 1,152

Answer: Add a straight line to the second plus sign, turning it into a "4." The equation will now read 11 + 1141 = 1,152

HOLY WORD-SQUARE, BATMAN! At the right is a word square grid. Can you find the four five-letter words that match the definitions below? All words used must read the same both across and down.

1. A toothy villian (given).
2. Provides food and liquid.
3. The wind is their friend.
4. A significant occurrence.
5. What a sick person does.

1 J	2 O	3 K	4 E	5 R
2 O				
3 K				
4 E				
5 R				

Answers: 1. Joker. 2. Olive. 3. Kites. 4. Event. 5. Rests.

One dog gets the bed, the other the floor

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: I should buy stock in the aluminum foil industry? My 6-year-old boxer/hound mix, Shera, will not stay off the furniture. My bed and living-room furniture are lined with aluminum foil to stop her from climbing them. I have a 14-year-old dog, Bubba, who sleeps with me at night, but never occupies the bed or furniture by day. Shera is kennel trained and sleeps in her kennel at night with the door fastened.

Bubba is getting near the end, and I don't want to take on another dog until I solve this problem with Shera. Would it be best to wait until Bubba is not sleeping with me to correct this territorial issue?—Susan W., via email

DEAR SUSAN: I don't think this is a territorial issue so much as an issue of Shera figuring out how far to push her boundaries. Naturally, she will want to get up on the couch or the bed just like Bubba.

But you don't have to wait until Bubba is gone to start addressing Shera's behavior. You can choose to wait—especially if taking care of Bubba is stressful right now and you just don't want to deal with a new challenge. Shera's behavior probably will not change during this period. But if you have the time and energy, start training Shera to stay off the furniture. It's a matter of you being the leader of the family, and what you say goes. That means if Bubba gets to sleep on the bed and Shera doesn't, too tough for Shera.

As far as how: I'd recommend spending more time with Shera, playing or doing basic obedience training on the leash, next to the furniture she likes to jump on. When she wants to get on the couch, tug her away, have her face you and command "sit" or "lie down" and "stay." Basically, retrain her way of thinking about the purpose of those rooms.

■ ■ ■

Send your pet questions and tips to ask@pawscorner.com, or write to Paw's Corner, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Find more pet advice and resources at www.pawscorner.com.

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Strange BUT TRUE

By Samantha Weaver

■ It was Swiss journalist and commentator Esther Dyson who made the following sage observation: "The Internet is like alcohol in some sense. It accentuates what you would do anyway. If you want to be a loner, you can be more alone. If you want to connect, it makes it easier to connect."

■ The world's largest colony of ants reaches all the way from northern Italy to Spain's Atlantic coast.

■ The first U.S. patent was issued in 1790 for a soap-making formula developed by Samuel Hopkins.

■ In May of this year, Canadian chef Ted Reader attempted to break the Guinness record for the world's largest hamburger. The patty alone weighed more than 300 pounds, and the bun was 105 pounds. Once the burger was decked out with lettuce, cheese, tomatoes, red onions, pickles and barbecue sauce, the grand total was a whopping 590 pounds. Guinness has not yet certified the giant hamburger, but it seems a shoe-in to beat the current record holder, which is a measly 158.8 pounds.

■ Hasbro's Easy-Bake oven was so popular when in was released in 1963 that it sold a half million of the toys within the first year.

■ If getting out on the road these days is making you nervous, you have good reason: According to the 2010 GMAC Insurance National Drivers Test survey, approximately 38 million American drivers would fail a written drivers test—that's 20 percent of licensed drivers. The nation's best drivers can be found in Kansas, while the worst drivers—perhaps unsurprisingly—are in New York.

■ ■ ■

Thought for the Day: "As far as the laws of mathematics refer to reality, they are not certain; and as far as they are certain, they do not refer to reality."—Albert Einstein

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MAGIC MAZE ● QUOTES FROM MEL BROOKS

V	X	U	E	R	P	R	M	J	G	D	A	X	V	S
Q	N	K	O	H	W	E	H	I	F	D	A	X	V	T
D	Q	O	M	E	T	H	J	H	F	C	A	Y	W	U
Y	E	R	P	S	S	T	E	K	C	I	T	N	L	J
D	L	T	H	I	U	O	S	F	R	D	B	Z	X	V
E	T	F	N	T	J	N	R	N	D	O	G	F	I	R
F	Q	O	O	A	M	A	E	S	I	R	O	M	U	H
E	K	I	H	T	W	F	V	E	V	A	H	P	D	B
N	Z	Y	W	E	S	V	I	T	R	Q	G	O	S	N
S	L	K	I	S	S	U	N	E	V	I	G	A	H	I
E	F	D	C	A	D	L	U	O	W	E	H	Z	X	W

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

He who hesitates is poor. Humor is	just another *(clue answer)* against the	universe. If God wanted us to fly,	he would have given us tickets.

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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

DIFFICULTY: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

	–		x		7
x		+		÷	
	÷		+		10
+		x		+	
	x		–		12
22		20		9	

1 2 3 4 5 7 7 8 9

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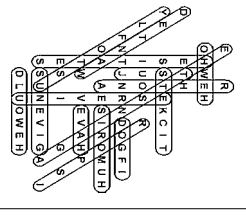
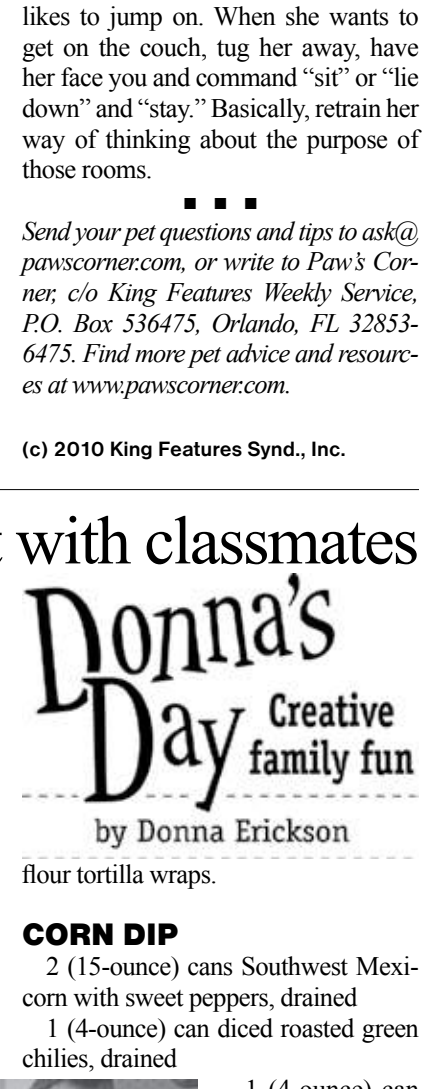
MAGIC MAZE ANSWER



GO FIGURE ANSWER

7	7	x	1	–	2
	÷		+		x
10	7	+	3	÷	9
	+		x		+
12	8	–	5	x	4
	9		20		22

Corn dip is a hit with classmates



When college kids return home for the summer, they spend the first few days catching up on sleep, seeing friends and eventually dumping out a semester's worth of laundry from bulging duffel bags. But this year, 21-year-old Tommy Bennett had an extra thought on his mind when he landed in Minnesota after his junior year at Pepperdine University in California. Within moments of arriving, he made a dash to the neighborhood market to pick up ingredients for a corn dip recipe that he and four roommates — Sean, Mack, John and Erik—made famous with classmates.

Corn dip?

"I can't live a day without it," he said, as he stirred up a taste test for me in his mom's biggest serving bowl. "It's a perfect snack with tortilla chips when friends come by, and a good spread on toast and crackers when you need something to tide you over after studying late at night. We always doubled the recipe at school, to have plenty to go around. When we ran out after four or five days, we rotated who bought the ingredients. And it only takes 10 minutes to make!" he added.

Not only was I impressed by the simple steps and taste (it gets its kick from the jalapenos), but also happily reminded of the pleasure we adults can experience when learning something new from our kids and their friends.

Here is their easy recipe, which you can make famous in your household this summer. Experiment with it and use it as a dip for raw vegetables, or as a tasty filling with coarsely shredded carrots and sliced sugar snap peas in flour tortilla wraps.

CORN DIP

2 (15-ounce) cans Southwest Mexicorn with sweet peppers, drained

1 (4-ounce) can diced roasted green chilies, drained

1 (4-ounce) can diced jalapenos, drained

2 green onions (scallions), finely chopped

3/4 cup light mayonnaise

2/3 cup light sour cream

2 cups sharp cheddar cheese, shredded

1. Combine all ingredients in a large bowl. Chill, covered, for several hours or overnight to allow flavors to intensify.

2. Serve with corn chips in scoop shapes.

Keeps well in the refrigerator (covered) for four to five days. Stir before serving. Yields 4 cups.

■ ■ ■

Donna Erickson's award-winning series "Donna's Day" is airing on public television nationwide. To find more of her creative family recipes and activities, visit www.donnasday.com and link to the NEW Donna's Day Facebook fan page. Her latest book is "Donna Erickson's Fabulous Funstuff for Families."

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Life & Style

Mark Twain tribute fetches $242,000 at NYC auction

NEW YORK (AP)—Mark Twain's never published "A Family Sketch"—a tribute to his daughter who died at 24 after contracting spinal meningitis—sold at auction Thursday for $242,500, far outpacing pre-sale estimates.

The document was a tribute to Olivia "Susy" Clemens, who inspired two of his stories.

The sale price surpassed the original estimate of $120,000 to $180,000. Sotheby's did not identify the buyer.

The 64-page, handwritten document was among a trove of 200 Twain letters, manuscripts and photographs.

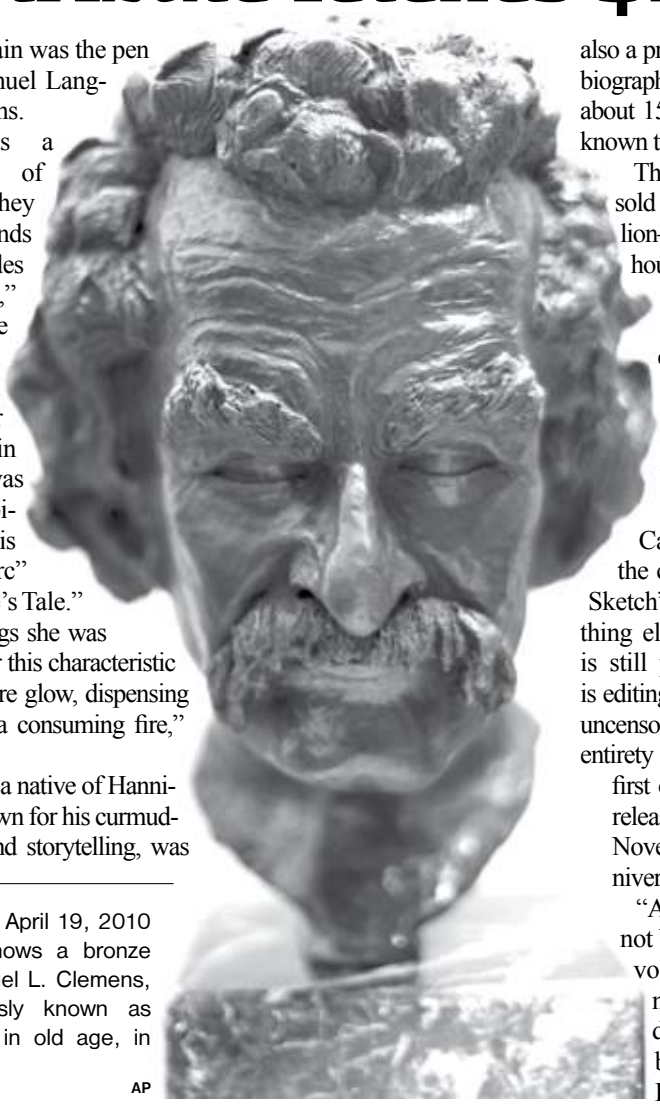
"Any Mark Twain archive or collector would be willing to go hungry for two or three years just in order to be able to buy it," Robert Hirst, general editor of the Mark Twain Papers & Projects at the University of California at Berkeley, said in a recent interview. The university holds the largest repository of Twain material.

Hirst called it a "very intimate family record, with all of the charm both of Clemens himself," his family and household servants. Twain was the pen name of Samuel Langhorne Clemens.

"She was a magazine of feelings, & they were of all kinds & of all shades of force," Twain wrote of Susy in the sketch shortly after her death in 1896. She was also the inspiration for his "Joan of Arc" and "A Horse's Tale."

"In all things she was intense: in her this characteristic was not a mere glow, dispensing warmth, but a consuming fire," he wrote.

The writer, a native of Hannibal, Mo., known for his curmudgeonly wit and storytelling, was also a prolific letter-writer. Twain biographer Michael Shelden said about 15,000 of his missives are known to exist.



This Monday, April 19, 2010 file photo shows a bronze bust of Samuel L. Clemens, more famously known as Mark Twain, in old age, in New York.

AP

The total collection, which sold for more than $2.2 million—more than the auction house estimate of $750,000 to $1.2 million, belonged to the late media executive James S. Copley, whose library of other literary and historic manuscripts also were being sold.

The University of California, which controls the copyright on "A Family Sketch" and virtually everything else by Mark Twain that is still protected by copyright, is editing and publishing Twain's uncensored autobiography in its entirety for the first time. The first of three volumes will be released by the UC Press in November, on the 175th anniversary of his birth.

"A Family Sketch" will not be included in the three-volume set because it is not part of what Twain designed as his autobiography, Hirst said. Instead, the university plans to publish the work—either from the original or copies it owns—in a series called "Jumping Frogs," he said.

"A Family Sketch" also provides a glimpse into Twain's childhood in a passage in which he describes shooting a bird as a prank.

"It toppled from its perch & came floating down limp & forlorn & fell at my feet, its song quenched and its inoffending life extinguished ... I had destroyed it wantonly, & I felt all that an assassin feels, of grief & remorse when his deed comes home to him & he wishes he could undo it."

The last large collection of Twain material at auction was in 2003, also at Sotheby's. It contained memorabilia and souvenirs and sold for $1.4 million.

Danny Boyle to oversee 2012 Olympic ceremony

LONDON (AP)—Danny Boyle, the Oscar-winning director of "Slumdog Millionaire," will oversee the opening ceremony of the 2012 London Olympics.

Boyle was introduced Thursday as the artistic director of the ceremony to be held on July 27, 2012. The announcement was made in the shadow of the new 80,000-seat Olympic stadium in east London that will host both the opening and closing of the games.

Boyle

Boyle won the best-director Academy Award in 2009 for "Slumdog Millionaire," a film that won a total of eight Oscars. His other films include "Trainspotting," "28 Days Later" and "Sunshine."

"It's a fantastic responsibility," Boyle said. "When they offered us the job, they said, `Do you want to think about it?' I said, `No, I want to do it.'"

Another Hollywood director, Stephen Daldry, will be one of the executive producers of the opening and closing ceremonies. Daldry directed "Billy Elliott," "The Reader" and "The Hours."

London will have a hard act in trying to top the extravagant opening ceremony of the 2008 Beijing Olympics, which was designed by Chinese movie director Zhang Yimou and drew a worldwide television audience of 1 billion people.

"It's not going to be like Beijing in terms of this overwhelming scale," Boyle said.

London organizing committee chairman Sebastian Coe said the ceremony would focus on "what we need in London, which is a games for our times."

Coe said there were no plans to cut back on the $60 million budget for the opening and closing ceremonies of the Olympics and Paralympics, despite Britain's severe financial situation.

"We haven't reduced the scope of what we're doing," he said.

As well as artistic entertainment, the opening ceremony will feature the parade of 10,000 athletes from 205 nations.

Eccentric UK author Sebastian Horsley has died

LONDON (AP)—Self-styled dandy and noted British eccentric Sebastian Horsley, who found fame by having himself nailed to a cross in the Philippines, died Thursday at the age of 47.

Horsley's dysfunctional childhood and catastrophic personal life provided the fodder for his memoir, "Dandy in the Underworld," which describes his adventures in drugs, gambling, alcoholism, prostitution and high fashion. London's Metropolitan police did not give a cause of death, but British media reported that he had died of a suspected overdose.

Horsley

Tim Fountain, who is directing a play about Horsley at London's Soho Theatre, said Horsley was "hard wired for extremes."

"Extreme ways of living bring with them great risks as well as rewards," Fountain said. "I'm devastated."

Sebastian, the elder son of millionaire Nicholas Horsley, described a childhood full of "atheism, alcoholism and insanity." Modeling himself on Lord Byron and Oscar Wilde, he was often pictured wearing a top hat, velvet coat and bright red nail polish against the backdrop of an apartment packed with human skulls ("I wanted to collect something, just not stamps," he told one recent interviewer.)

Horsley is perhaps best known for a bungled attempt to have himself crucified in the Philippines in 2000 as part of an art project. The procedure almost ended in disaster when his foot support broke, threatening to rip his hands apart (he was caught and taken down from the cross just in time.) But notoriety doesn't necessarily bring wealth, and Horsley often complained of being broke, quipping that he'd invested most of his money on drugs and prostitutes—and squandered the rest.

Horsley's open drug use was one of the reasons he was barred from entering the United States on grounds of "moral turpitude" in 2008. But he took the ban in good humor, telling the AP: "My one concession to American sensibilities was to remove my nail polish. I thought that would get me through."

Friends and fellow writers eagerly collected his one-liners, which he often delivered with a touch of venom. Author Toby Young, a friend of Horsley's, wrote on The Daily Telegraph's website that he "never spent an evening with him without having to write down something he'd said.

"His true genius was for conversation."

Horsley's death comes only days after the opening of Fountain's play, also called "Dandy in the Underworld." Horsley appeared to have mixed feelings about having someone else play him on stage, telling The Times of London earlier this month that "seeing one's own doppelganger is an omen of death."

DeGeneres makes variety TV her cause in special

AP

In this publicity photo originally released Oct. 21, 2009 by Warner Bros., host Ellen DeGeneres is shown during an Oct. 15, 2009 taping of the "The Ellen DeGeneres Show," in Burbank, Calif.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Ellen DeGeneres is bringing variety back to TV with the help of Kabuki Expert and Flag Man.

They're among the performers in DeGeneres' fourth variety special for TBS, "Ellen's Somewhat Special Special," which taped at the Chicago Theatre on Wednesday for broadcast later this month.

"I'm really excited about the acts this year," DeGeneres said before the show, which was to include a Q&A session with the audience and "different things."

Asked if that meant she would take part in some of the daring stunts, the comedian said it was possible, adding, "Coincidentally, I signed a big insurance policy."

Others appearing in the special include Lady Antebellum, Australian magician James Galea, Catwalk Acrobats and Nick Cannon. They join Japan's Kabuki Expert, creators of the clever Matrix Ping Pong video seen online, and Dominic Lacasse, an acrobat known as Flag Man.

Between sitcoms and before launching her daytime talk show, DeGeneres starred in a TV variety pilot that didn't make it onto a network schedule. Variety has largely fallen out of favor with viewers, but the comedian and "American Idol" judge won't give up on the concept.

"It just depends on how it's done," she said, citing the success of "America's Got Talent," the Simon Cowell-produced show on NBC. "You can't say an entire genre is obsolete."

"Ellen's Somewhat Special Special" is set to air 9 p.m. EDT Sunday, June 27, on TBS.

It's one of several shows being taped at the five-night Just for Laughs Festival staged by TBS in Chicago, which opened Tuesday and features more than 100 comedians, including Cedric The Entertainer, Denis Leary, Rob Corrdry, Aziz Ansari and Andy Richter with members of Conan O'Brien's writing staff.

'Twilight' gets a makeover, Jersey style

NEW YORK (AP)—Vampire Edward Cullen will go from scrawny and pale to bronzed and brawny on a prime-time special of "Jimmy Kimmel Live" next week.

Robert Pattinson, Kristen Stewart and Taylor Lautner will appear together on the show—and see what they could look like with a Jersey-style makeover.

Kimmel has taped segments with the cast of MTV's "Jersey Shore" spoofing "Twilight."

There's Mike "The Situation" Sorrentino dressed like Cullen but shirtless in a tanning bed coffin and Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi as Bella Swan wearing a yellow minidress. Lautner's character of werewolf Jacob Black is played by Pauly "DJ Pauly D" Del Vecchio.

Kimmel plays Forks police chief and Bella's father, Charlie.

"Jimmy Kimmel Live's Twilight Saga: Total Eclipse of the Heart" airs Wednesday, June 23 at 10 p.m. ET/PT on ABC. "Eclipse" opens June 30.

AP

In this publicity image released by ABC, "The Twilight Saga: Eclipse" stars from left, Taylor Lautner, Kristen Stewart, and Robert Pattinson pose with host Jimmy Kimmel during the taping of a prime time special, "Jimmy Kimmel Live's Twilight Saga: Total Eclipse of the Heart" airing Wednesday, June 23, 2010 at 10 p.m. EST on ABC. The program will also feature spoofs of the film performed by cast members of "Jersey Shore."

Billboard: 'Say Say Say' most popular Jackson song

NEW YORK (AP)—Michael Jackson had dozens of hits, but his most popular one wasn't a solo smash or a tune with his brothers. It was a song with another icon.

Billboard says "Say Say Say," his 1983 hit with Paul McCartney, is the most popular Jackson song. That was followed by "Billie Jean," the Jackson 5's "I'll Be There," "Beat It" and "Rock with You."

"Billie Jean" was at No. 1 for seven weeks, while "Say Say Say" held the top spot for six weeks. But the McCartney-Jackson hit stayed in the top 10 longer.

Billboard is releasing Jackson statistics ahead of the anniversary of the King of Pop's death. He died June 25, 2009, at age 50.

AP

In this March 5, 2009 file photo, US singer Michael Jackson is shown at a press conference in London.

Calif. man pleads not guilty to kidnapping actor

PALM SPRINGS, Calif. (AP)—A man has pleaded not guilty to kidnapping actor Jeremy London and forcing him to use drugs, the Riverside County district attorney's office said Thursday.

Brandon Adams, 26, of Palm Springs, remained jailed after being arraigned Tuesday on five charges that include kidnapping and theft, said Michael Jeandron, a district attorney's spokesman.

A statement from Palm Springs police said London, who appeared on TV's "7th Heaven" and "Party of Five," was kidnapped while changing a flat tire on June 10.

The 37-year-old actor told police that several men helped him and he offered them a ride home. Police said one man later pulled a gun, forced London to drive around, buy alcohol and take drugs.

London said he escaped but his car was stolen. Police later found it and on June 11 arrested Adams.

It was not immediately known if Adams has retained a lawyer.

Dominic Friesen, a publicist for London, confirmed Thursday that the actor was the kidnapping victim and that London is working closely with police in their investigation. Friesen said London is at "an undisclosed location with family and friends" and appreciates the support from his fans.

AP

In this Dec. 3, 2009 file photo, actor Jeremy London arrives at the Junior Hollywood Radio and Television Society 7th annual holiday party in Los Angeles.

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

America Ferrera engaged to marry longtime beau

LOS ANGELES (AP)—America Ferrera is adding bride to her list of credits. A spokeswoman for the 26-year-old actress and producer says the "Ugly Betty" star is engaged to marry her longtime boyfriend, Ryan Piers Williams. Publicist Carrie Byalick did not provide further details. Ferrera won an Emmy, a Golden Globe and a Screen Actors Guild Award for her portrayal of Betty Suarez on ABC's "Ugly Betty," which wrapped last year after four seasons. She and Williams met at the University of Southern California when he cast her in his student film. According to the movie database IMDb.com, Williams also wrote and directed the film "The Dry Land," due for release later this summer and starring Ferrera.

Billy Joel honors Phil Ramone with Hitmaker Award

NEW YORK (AP)—Billy Joel attributes Phil Ramone as integral to his success, so it seems fitting he would induct the legendary producer into the Songwriters Hall of Fame in New York. Joel says Ramone guided him on a lot of songs that may not have been hits. He says he takes Ramone's advice because he knows what he's talking about. Ramone was honored Thursday night with the Hitmaker Award, tailored for those responsible for a number of hit songs over an extended period. Ramone says he's always been fascinated by Joel. Their relationship began with Joel's 1977 breakout album, "The Stranger."

30 to be honored in 2011 on Hollywood Walk of Fame

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Oprah Winfrey, Penelope Cruz, will.i.am and The Muppets are among the latest celebrities to be immortalized with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. The 2011 honorees were announced Thursday by the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce. Thirty new stars will be unveiled in pink-and-black terrazzo, with recipients from movies and TV including Gwyneth Paltrow, Donald Sutherland, Reese Witherspoon, Danny DeVito and Tina Fey. Honorees in the recording category include Melissa Etheridge, Los Tigres Del Norte and Rascal Flatts.

'Hot in Cleveland' debut sizzled in the ratings

NEW YORK (AP)—TV Land's comedy "Hot in Cleveland" has shown real ratings heat in its premiere, emerging as Wednesday's most-watched show on cable. The Nielsen Co. said Thursday that the episode's first airing attracted nearly 5 million viewers, with 2.4 million viewers tuning to its encore broadcast immediately afterward. The much-publicized new series stars 88-year-old Betty White along with fellow sitcom veterans Valerie Bertinelli, Jane Leeves and Wendie Malick.

Phil Collins honored by Songwriters Hall of Fame

NEW YORK (AP)—Phil Collins, one of the honored recipients at the Songwriters Hall of Fame gala, says that he hopes such accolades are not foreboding. Collins said on the red carpet Thursday night that when artists his age start winning awards, "you think people have been in touch with the doctors." Collins was honored with the Johnny Mercer Award, named after the legendary songwriter and founder of the Songwriters Hall of Fame. Collins says he takes the award seriously, like an Oscar or a Grammy. This year's inducted songwriters include Leonard Cohen, Jackie DeShannon, David Foster, and Earth Wind & Fire. Young songwriters also were recognized, with Taylor Swift receiving the Hal David Starlight Award.

'Sex and City' author Bushnell doing 2 more books

NEW YORK (AP)—Candace Bushnell has more tales of sex and the city, if not "Sex and the City." The best-selling author is set to write two more novels. Grand Central Publishing said Wednesday the first is about a romantic triangle and is coming out in 2012. It'll be titled "The Two Mrs. Stones." Bushnell's novel "Sex and the City" formed the basis for the movies and HBO television series starring Sarah Jessica Parker as Carrie Bradshaw. Her other books include "Lipstick Jungle" and "Trading Up.

Woman fears for sister living with unstable dad

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My father is a successful attorney. He appears to be the ideal father because he's charming, has a sense of humor and is intelligent.

He's a different person in private. Since I was 12, he has verbally and emotionally abused me, sometimes hitting me, throwing me down, threatening to evict or kill me. Abby, I was not a bad child. I never experimented with drugs or alcohol and spent little time with friends. I'm currently in college and maintain a 4.0 GPA.

My family and I think my father is mentally ill. He's extremely unstable and has a family history of these issues, including suicide. He has started stockpiling his deceased father's belongings, speaks to the dog as if it were a human being, and obsessively checks things in the house like locks, etc. He has extreme anger issues and other bizarre behaviors.

It's clear Dad has a problem, but because it has not affected him at work he sees no reason to get help. The one time I brought it up it only enraged him. He believes he is the ruler of the house, in control of everything, but it's obvious he's losing control.

We know we can't force him to get help, but what can I do to get Dad to see a psychiatrist or to improve the situation? Mom has given up, and I'm afraid for my little sister. She's in high school and still lives at home.

BIG SIS IN NEW MEXICO

DEAR BIG SIS: Your mother should have insisted your father get help when he started abusing you. Because she didn't, you should have told a teacher or counselor at school because they are mandated to report it. If your father abuses your sister, that's what she must do.

While many people mistakenly think that domestic abuse happens only in low-income families, family violence occurs among people on all social and economic levels. Because you fear for your sister's safety, contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline at (800) 799-7233. The people there can suggest help for your mother and sister, but your father cannot be "helped" unless he's willing to finally admit he needs it.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I just returned from a "Manicure/Pedicure Party" for a friend who is being married. The invitation I received stated, "Please join us for a manicure and pedicure in honor of the bride-to-be."

I was home about 10 minutes when I received a phone call from one of my hostesses. She told me that I had left without paying for my manicure and pedicure! I was floored. I told her I had forgotten, but the fact is, I had assumed since the invitation stated "Please join us" that the hostesses were paying.

Did I misinterpret the invitation? Or do people now "host" parties where they expect the guests to pay their own way? I am embarrassed and confused. Should I have asked the salon worker or the hostesses who was paying the bill?

CONFUSED IN COWTOWN

DEAR CONFUSED: Obviously you did misinterpret the invitation, which should have clearly mentioned that the event was "no host" and the guests would be required to pay for their own "salon services." I see no reason why you should have assumed that you'd be asked to pay, and your confusion is understandable. But please don't feel embarrassed. The folks who should feel embarrassed are the "hostesses."

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

■■■

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby – Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

SEE, THE CHICKEN POX ARE GOING AWAY.
THAT'S GOOD.
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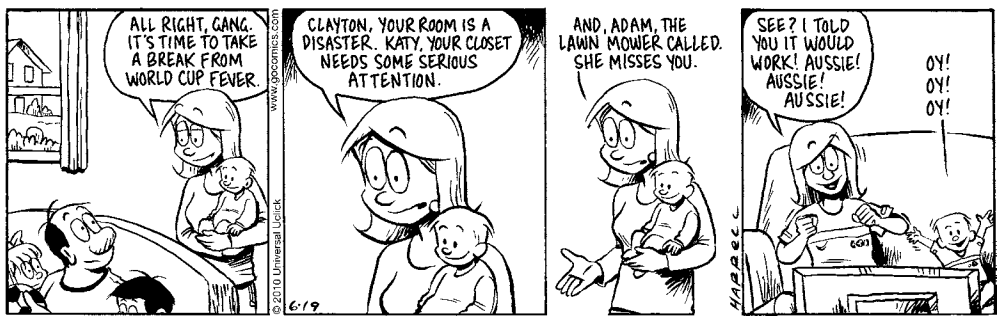
6-19
WELL, JUST REMEMBER THAT THIS WEEK DOESN'T COUNT.
DOESN'T COUNT?
RIGHT. SUMMER VACATION DAYS DON'T COUNT IF YOU'RE SICK. I GET TO START SCHOOL A WEEK LATER NOW, SO I GET MY FULL ALLOTMENT OF VACATION.
OK. WHAT'S THE NEXT AMENDMENT SAY? I KNOW IT'S IN HERE SOMEPLACE.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

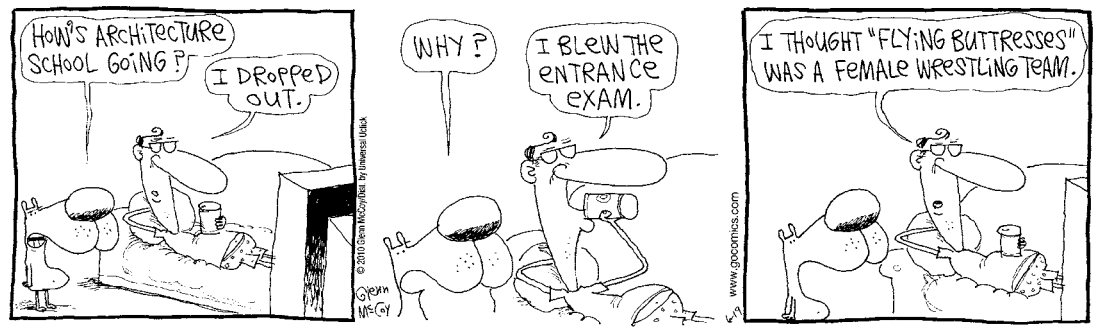
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


ALL RIGHT, GANG. IT'S TIME TO TAKE A BREAK FROM WORLD CUP FEVER.
CLAYTON, YOUR ROOM IS A DISASTER. KATY, YOUR CLOSET NEEDS SOME SERIOUS ATTENTION.
www.gocomics.com
©2010 Universal Uclick
6-19
AND, ADAM, THE LAWN MOWER CALLED. SHE MISSES YOU.
SEE? I TOLD YOU IT WOULD WORK! AUSSIE! AUSSIE! AUSSIE!
OY! OY! OY!

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


HOW'S ARCHITECTURE SCHOOL GOING?
I DROPPED OUT.
©2010 Glenn McCoy/dist. by Universal Uclick
WHY?
I BLEW THE ENTRANCE EXAM.
I THOUGHT "FLYING BUTTRESSES" WAS A FEMALE WRESTLING TEAM.
www.gocomics.com

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Bloodsucker
6 Charlatan
11 Roman orator or Chicago suburb
12 Small brown finch
14 Mary-Kate's sister
15 Poppy derivative
16 Jurist Lance
17 Make happy
19 Feathery accessory
20 Clarinetist's need
22 Golfer Ernie
23 Grad
24 Stranger
26 Caters (to)
28 Started
30 Chic, to Austin Powers
31 Become wrinkly
35 Old gold coin
39 Dregs
40 Symbol of intrigue
42 Prop for Sherlock
43 In need of repair
44 Farewell
46 Three Little Kittens' reward
47 Lethargy
49 Cracker type
51 Buffet-table heat source
52 Willow twigs
53 Win it all
54 Dawdle

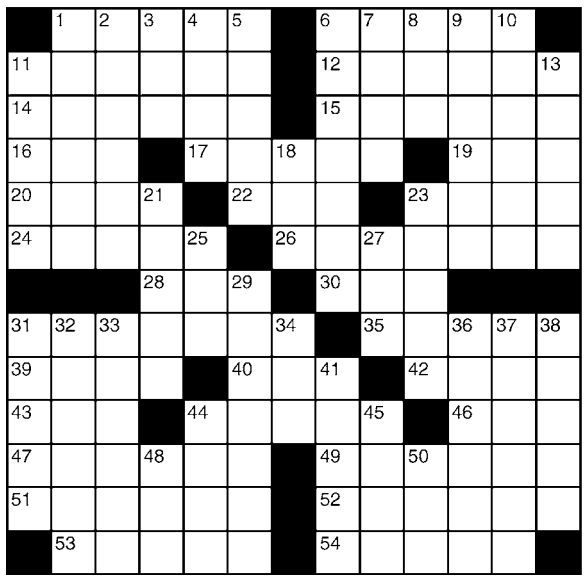
DOWN

1 On the roster
2 Resounded
3 Conger or moray
4 Saskatchewan tribe
5 Rule-maker?
6 Stuff in the water
7 Fully developed
8 Singer DiFranco
9 Lacking the skill
10 Roundabout path
11 Illinois city
13 Squads
18 Heidi's height
21 Sandwich shops
23 Find the sum
25 Gun the engine
27 Affirmative action?
29 Tear on a leaf, so to speak
31 Vegas attraction
32 Serfs
33 Altered a sketch
34 Kauai keepsake
36 Zero
37 Collection of beehives
38 Abounds
41 Sired
44 Top-notch
45 — Minor
48 Opposite of post-
50 Atmosphere

Solution time: 27 mins.

M	E	C	C	A	■	T	H	E	■	G	A	D
A	L	L	O	T	■	A	U	K	■	A	N	I
B	L	E	A	T	■	C	L	E	A	V	E	S
■	■	A	L	A	S	K	A	■	Z	I	N	C
O	A	R	■	R	E	L	■	C	A	N	T	O
F	I	L	M	■	N	E	P	A	L	■	■	■
F	R	Y	E	R	S	■	E	R	E	C	T	S
■	■	■	D	E	E	D	S	■	A	L	O	E
L	I	T	U	P	■	R	T	S	■	E	Y	E
O	N	E	S	■	M	Y	O	P	I	A	■	■
C	L	E	A	N	E	R	■	O	N	T	A	P
H	E	N	■	E	M	U	■	D	O	E	T	H
S	T	Y	■	W	O	N	■	E	N	D	E	D

Yesterday's answer 6-19



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Zoe Saldana, 32; Paula Abdul, 48; Kathleen Turner, 56; Gena Rowlands, 80

Happy Birthday: You may be surprised by the changes around you this year. The only way to be a part of future trends is to embrace them and stay in the game. Your willingness to take part will be the determining factor in how far you can go and how many opportunities you will be able to take advantage of. Don't be a fence sitter. Your numbers are 6, 12, 16, 27, 30, 33, 46

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Don't make an impulsive remark or decision when the crux of the matter is more complex. Look past the obvious and you will find the right answers. Love is in the stars. 3 stars

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Your mind may be on your future and the changes ahead of you, but take a moment to enjoy the company of friends and family. A patient approach to life, love and happiness will position you nicely for advancement. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Add extra effort to whatever you pursue and you will be successful. Allow time to develop hobbies and skills you enjoy the most. An emotional matter will disrupt your plans. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Speaking of something you know little about will be frowned upon. A personal matter that involved you and someone you love will develop into a full-fledged dispute if you refuse to compromise. Pay your way and your way only. ✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Trust your instincts and your judgment when dealing with friends, relatives or neighbors. Don't get upset before you know the facts. Put your troubles on hold and enjoy time spent with someone you care for. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): A little will go a long way if you are energetic and do what needs to be done without hiring help. Share your plans with someone knowledgeable and experienced and you will come up with something unique and detailed to your liking. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Don't let your emotions get the better of you. Accept whatever change is heading your way. There is so much to look forward to once you get moving. You will be pleasantly surprised if you are patient. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): An interesting moneymaking plan will be tempting but, just because it works for someone else, doesn't ensure it will work for you. Expect someone to make a costly, last-minute change. How swiftly you adjust is what will count. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You can offer your skills, knowledge or experience and get something equally good in return. Making changes at home will be beneficial emotionally, mentally and financially. Love is looking good if you make plans for two. ✪✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): You will have plenty to consider and even more to get done. Don't let someone who doesn't agree with what you are doing slow you down. An emotional matter will be costly if you don't honor a contract or promise. ✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Do whatever is required to make your life more efficient. Changes to your home or a move should reflect your present stage in life. Prepare to spend on items that will ease your stress or bring you greater comfort. Don't let someone who cares about you let you down. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Focus on what's best for everyone before you proceed or you can expect to face a power struggle. You will be judged by what you have already done and how successful you have been, so do not leave anything to chance. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You have great potential, drive and determination. You have the ability to act fast and to size up situations quickly.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

6		4						
			6	8		4		
2							3	
	1			7				
	5		1	3	9		8	
				4			5	
	9							6
		3		5	7			
						5		2

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 6/19

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

2	4	9	7	8	3	6	5	1
5	3	7	1	4	6	9	8	2
1	6	8	5	2	9	4	7	3
3	7	5	2	6	8	1	9	4
8	9	2	3	1	4	7	6	5
4	1	6	9	5	7	2	3	8
7	5	4	6	3	2	8	1	9
6	2	3	8	9	1	5	4	7
9	8	1	4	7	5	3	2	6

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 6/18

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

SLEEVES **Solution: 4 letters**

R	I	R	S	H	A	P	E	C	A	G	N	G	K	H
E	O	N	E	W	S	I	O	N	N	W	N	R	N	T
D	J	L	S	A	E	N	N	A	O	I	R	D	I	D
N	A	L	L	U	C	A	H	G	H	T	N	A	L	I
I	C	C	A	E	L	H	T	C	I	E	T	O	P	W
L	K	O	A	B	D	A	T	E	T	S	F	U	E	R
Y	E	L	A	T	E	A	T	X	R	E	N	A	B	I
C	T	W	H	T	M	Ⓛ	E	I	U	S	R	I	F	N
L	S	G	R	U	S	T	Ⓞ	N	O	R	I	T	A	K
O	I	F	B	I	N	E	I	Ⓝ	E	N	I	K	S	L
T	T	L	F	E	S	F	G	W	Ⓖ	E	A	R	H	E
H	A	R	M	U	O	T	O	D	M	S	B	M	I	S
I	O	R	O	R	C	L	D	R	A	U	G	A	O	A
N	A	L	M	H	A	N	D	S	E	B	S	A	N	C
G	B	S	E	S	S	E	R	D	S	H	I	R	T	D

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Album, Badge, Band, Blouse, Button, Case, Clasp, Clothing, Coats, Conceal, Cuffs, Cylinder, Dresses, Extend, Fashion, Fold, Garment, Gear, Gown, Guard, Hands, Hang, Hole, Insignia, Insulation, Iron, Jackets, Label, Link, Long, Lower, Matching, Reach, Rolled, Seam, Shape, Shirt, Short, Skin, Stretch, Sweaters, Tags, Tight, Uniform, Wear, Width, Wrap, Wrinkles, Wrist

Yesterday's Answer: Spectator

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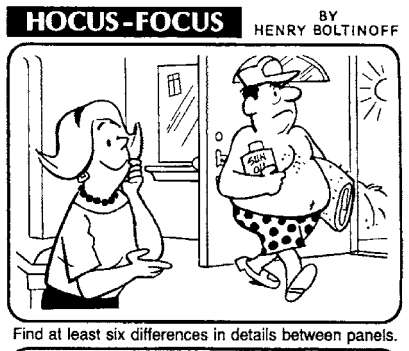
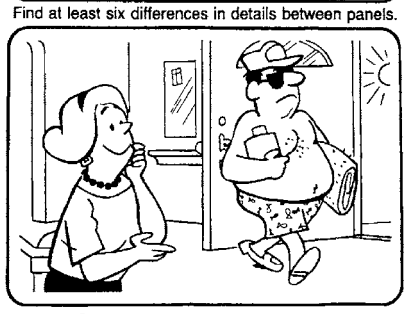
HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Oil label is missing. 2. Swim trunks are different. 3. Sunglasses have been added. 4. Woman's hairstyle is different. 5. Window is smaller. 6. Shrub is missing.

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Wishing Well®

5	2	5	4	6	3	5	6	8	3	2	3	2
F	L	O	G	A	Y	R	N	H	O	E	U	A
3	2	5	3	2	3	6	7	6	3	7	3	5
C	D	T	O	T	P	A	G	L	E	I	B	U
2	6	4	3	7	2	3	7	8	5	2	7	4
H	Y	O	E	V	E	T	E	A	N	W	F	A
6	5	3	2	7	4	3	4	5	7	4	6	3
Z	E	T	A	R	L	E	S	I	E	A	E	R
6	7	5	8	6	7	8	7	2	5	6	8	6
E	E	M	R	M	L	D	Y	Y	P	O	W	T
8	6	8	4	6	5	6	5	6	8	5	4	8
O	I	R	C	O	R	N	O	S	K	V	H	P
4	8	5	8	5	8	4	8	4	8	4	8	4
I	A	E	Y	S	S	E	O	V	F	E	F	D

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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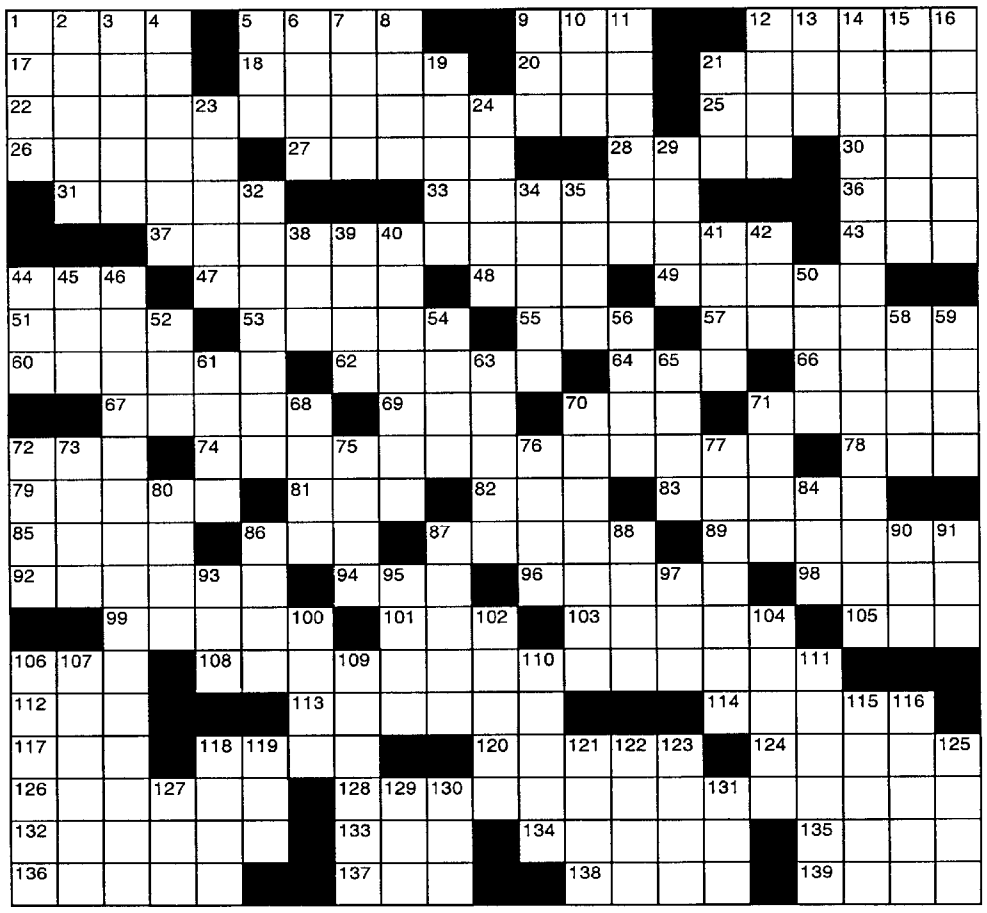
Super Crossword — HUMORISTS

ACROSS

1 Pollutant
5 Next in line
9 Viola part
12 Irish playwright
17 Strong — ox
18 Extremely hot
20 Prospector's prize
21 Breakfast food
22 Humorous TV host?
25 Shadowy site?
26 Half a joint
27 Math relationship
28 Without
30 "— Blue?" ('29 song)
31 Not as common
33 More promising
36 Fled
37 Humorous Senator?
43 — de France
44 Mil. rank
47 Steakhouse order
48 Observe
49 Medical word form
51 Mighty mite
53 Film barbarian
55 Where to find an incus
57 Tropical rodent
60 Pina —
62 Willow tree
64 Genesis vessel
66 Russian ruler
67 Feudal figure
69 Explosive initials
70 Dam org.
71 Defer
72 Hog heaven?
74 Humorous pirate?
78 Antiquity, archaically
79 Bug-to-be
81 Trigger-happy guy?
82 Payable
83 Rope material
85 — vera
86 Shady character?
87 Rock's Tears for —
89 A Muse
92 Turned soft
94 Architect's add-on
96 Center of attraction
98 It holds plenty!
99 Miller's salesman
101 — de Cologne
103 Hot spot?
105 Coral reef
106 "I Am —" (2001 film)
108 Humorous Pilgrim?
112 In favor of
113 New Hampshire city
114 Intense
117 Item in a lock
118 Seasons firewood
120 Win by —
124 Milo of "Ulysses"
126 Dull
128 Humorous actress?
132 Barrymore or Richie
133 Altar answer
134 Do a mechanic's job
135 "Mila 18" author
136 Actress Dominique
137 Savor the sauerbraten
138 Approximately
139 Hammer part

DOWN

1 Fiction's antithesis
2 9 Down character
3 — Loa
4 Repeat performance
5 Producer Prince
6 Celebrity hairstylist Jose
7 Hawkeye State
8 Crowd-burst?
9 Eerie author
10 Bungle
11 Old Faithful, e.g.
12 Certain steeds
13 Before, to Byron
14 Humorous poet?
15 Gorilla or groundhog
16 Novelist Gordimer
19 Chateau valley
21 Marsh
23 Prepared to propose
24 Plunders
29 Graceland name
32 Chest part
34 Like chiffon
35 Notion
38 San Diego attraction
39 Part of A.D.
40 Abominable
41 Plumbing problem
42 Oaf
44 Singer Davis
45 From — Z
46 Humorous jazzman?
50 Composer Nino
52 Actress Zetterling
54 Foch or Simone
56 Sitarist Shankar
58 "— Paul" ('59 hit)
59 Enraged
61 — vu
63 Practice piece
65 "Phooey!"
68 Scruggs or Butz
70 Actress Saldana
71 TV host John
72 Bridge term
73 Biggest part of a fish?
75 Alaskan port
76 Magellan discovery
77 Fairy queen
80 Apt anagram of "vote"
84 Contented sigh
86 Gouda alternative
87 Instant
88 Read quickly
90 Tax shelter
91 Some
93 German spa
95 Tun throwaways
97 Bossy's chew
100 Workday start
102 Routine
104 English course?
106 Bobbins
107 Asian peninsula
109 Dog star?
110 Roberts or Tucker
111 Keep secret
115 Yonder
116 A la King?
118 Sailing
119 Salon supply
121 Christiania, today
122 Tend the sauce
123 Units of work
125 Org.
127 Sturm — Drang
129 — Bell Wells
130 Destiny
131 Kids' card game



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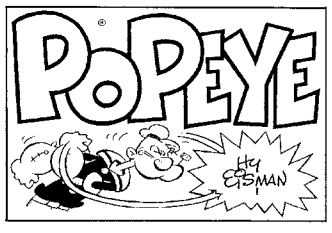

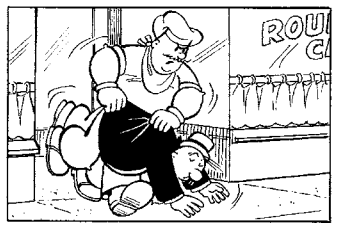

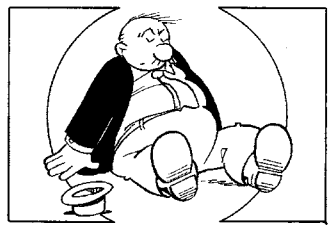

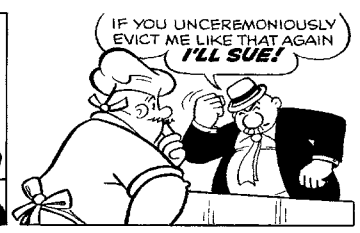

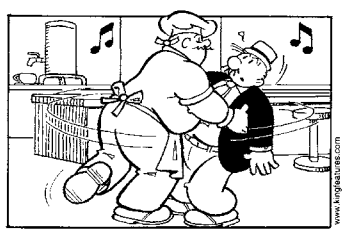

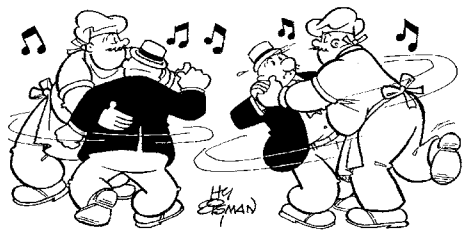

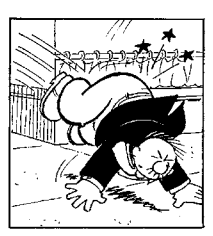

They'll Do It Every Time — by Al Scaduto

PUZZLE PIC- FIND THE YOUNG STUDENT WHO ALWAYS FAILS TO SIGN HIS HOMEWORK, HIS TEST PAPERS, ETC., ETC. ····
HEKKIE WUZ HERE
HEKKIE THE HUNK—
HEKKIE LIKES LULA
HEKKIE SUPER HERO
HEKKIE WUZ HERE TOO
HEKKIE WHO AE?
ALSCADUTO2@YTONLINE.NET
Thanx to M. FRIEDLANDER, SAN FRANCISCO, CA.

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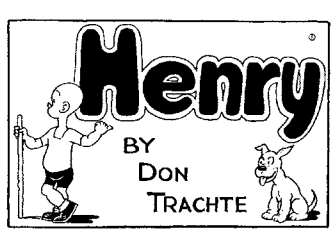
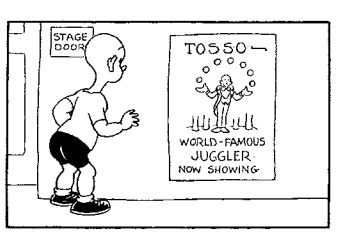
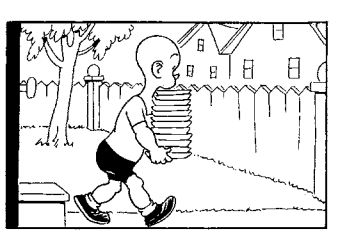
YOU REALLY HATE THE AMATEUR PAINTERS LATEST MESSTERPIECE, BUT YOU'RE POLITE··and SAY····

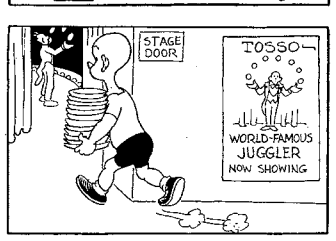
—thanx to EMILIO S., FLORAL PARK, N.Y.

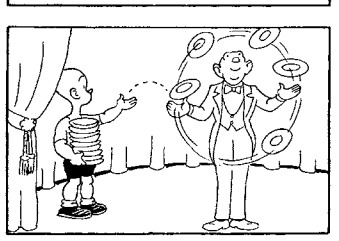
OH-H·· HOW LOVELY··ER·· YES·· VERY, VERY NICE··
HERE Y'ARE··· TAKE IT··· IT'S YOURS··IT'LL BE MY PRESENT TO YOU··
IT'LL GO JUST LOVELY IN YOUR LIVING ROOM··THE COLORS MATCH YOUR SETTEE··

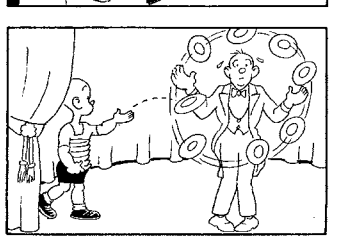


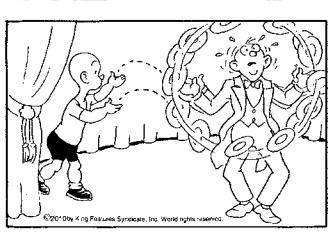


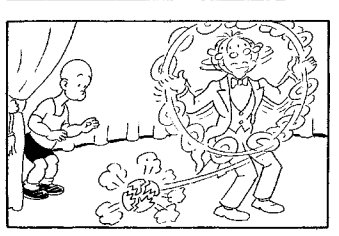


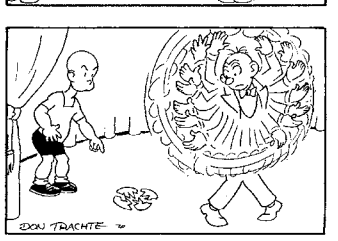












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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. LANGUAGE: What kind of activity likely would take place in a natatorium?
2. GEOGRAPHY: What is the highest point in the United States east of the Mississippi River?
3. TIME: When will the next leap year occur?
4. SCIENCE: What is the symbol for the element copper?
5. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a group of bacteria called?
6. MUSIC: What pop artist had a No. 1 hit with "Escape (The Piña Colada Song)"?
7. TELEVISION: What was the name of Jack's restaurant in "Three's Company"?
8. AD SLOGAN: What company's product was featured in ads with the slogan "the ultimate driving machine"?
9. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What was the old-time occupation of a wainwright?
10. FAMOUS QUOTATIONS: Who once said, "I've failed over and over and over again in my life and that is why I succeed"?

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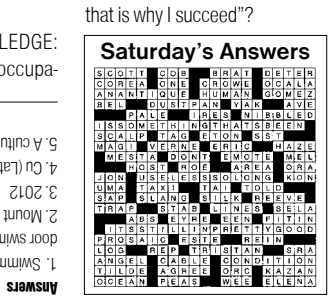
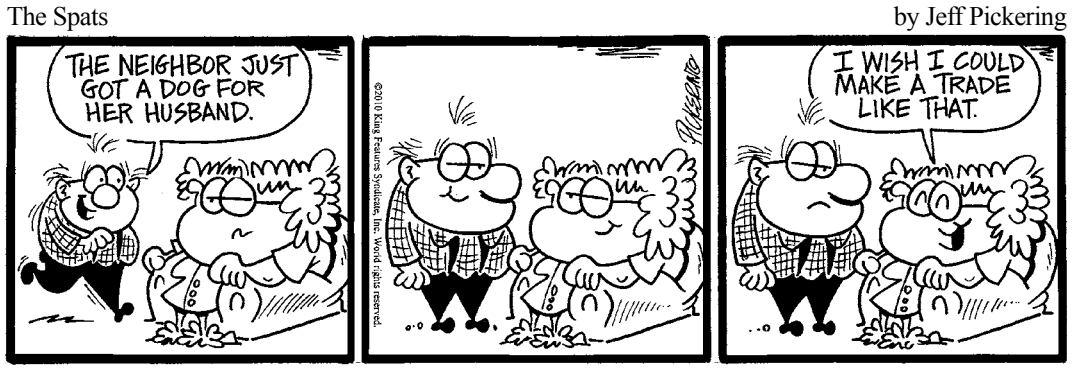
Answers

1. Swimming. A natatorium is an indoor swimming pool.
2. Mount Mitchell in North Carolina
3. 2012
4. Cu (Latin: cuprum)
5. A culture
6. Rupert Holmes
7. Jack's Bistro
8. BMW
9. One who makes or repairs wagons
10. Michael Jordan

Saturday's Answers



The Spats — by Jeff Pickering



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By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER
egate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP) now rests with President Obama, after the conference report on the omnibus Fiscal Year 2010 spending bill cleared the U.S. Senate on Sunday.
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Argentina shines again, and scores goals

JOHANNESBURG (AP)—Argentina again displayed the kind of attacking football that wins titles, and on Thursday at the World Cup the two-time champions even managed to put in the goals to show for it.

France, however, didn't show much of anything in a 2-0 loss to Mexico.

The Argentines beat South Korea 4-1 at Soccer City, getting a hat trick from Gonzalo Higuain and an own goal from Park Chu-young.

"We deserved this triumph because this was the type of outcome we'd hinted at achieving against Nigeria," Argentina coach Diego Maradona said, referring to his team's opening 1-0 win. "And this time it happened."

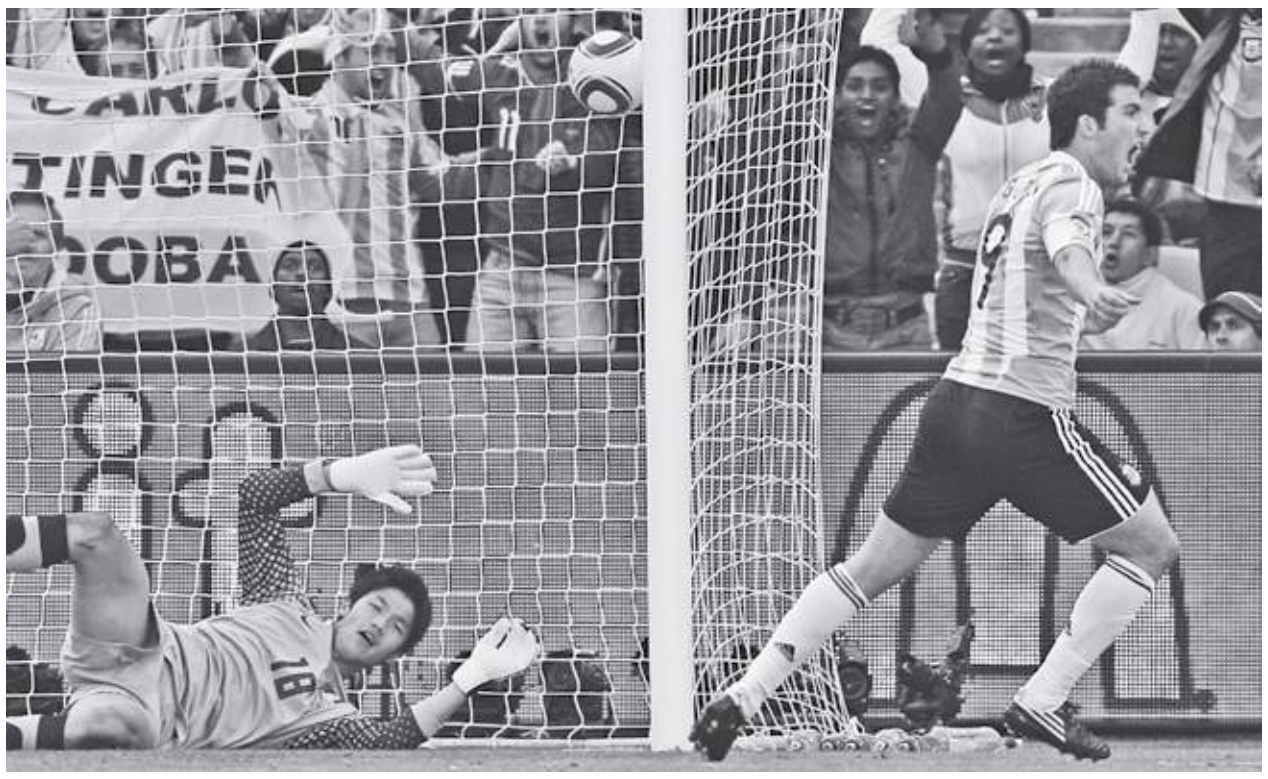
The Mexicans beat France 2-0 in Polokwane, leaving the 1998 champions on the verge of elimination. In Bloemfontein, Greece earned its first World Cup victory when the 2004 European champions came back to beat Nigeria 2-1. It was also Greece's first ever goals at the World Cup.

Argentina, which also dominated play against Nigeria, took the lead in the 17th minute when Park deflected a shot from Lionel Messi past his own goalkeeper.

Higuain then scored his first goal in the 33rd with a header, and added the others late in the second half after Lee Chung-yong cut the lead to 2-1 by taking advantage of a defensive mistake.

"I have to congratulate the players ... everything they did worked out well," Maradona said. "I am very happy."

Argentina now leads Group B with six points from two games, while South Korea and Greece have three each. Nigeria, which next plays South Korea, is last with zero points — but could still advance with a win in the final round if Argentina beats Greece.



AP

Argentina's Gonzalo Higuain, right, celebrates after scoring a goal against South Korea goalkeeper Jung Sung-ryong, left, during the World Cup group B soccer match between Argentina and South Korea at Soccer City in Johannesburg, South Africa, Thursday.

Against Greece, the Nigerians started well and took the lead in the 16th when Kalu Uche curled in a free kick. But Dimitris Salpingidis equalized in the 44th with a deflected shot, and Vassilis Torosidis scored the winning goal in the 71st after a mistake from Nigeria goalkeeper Vincent Enyeama.

"I think the sending off played a big part in the game," Nigeria captain Joseph Yobo said. "We were controlling the game before the sending off."

Greece is playing at only its second World Cup, and before the opening loss to South Korea at this year's tournament, the Greeks lost all three matches at the 1994 World Cup, including one against Nigeria.

"We badly wanted this, because we'd never even scored a goal in the World Cup before," Salpingidis said. "I can't say whether we'll make it out the group. But I can say that we'll leave with our heads held high."

France again produced little, and this time the team couldn't keep its opponent from scoring. "We feel a great disappointment and sadness," France coach Raymond Domenech said. "We struggled. At the moment I really don't have an explanation for it."

Javier Hernandez received a pass from Rafael Marquez and went around goalkeeper Hugo Lloris to give Mexico the lead in the 64th. Cuauhtemoc Blanco made it 2-0 by converting a penalty in the 79th.

Hernandez joined his grandfather as scorers at a World Cup. Tomas Balcazar scored for Mexico against France in the 1954 World Cup, although that was a consolation goal.

"I remembered my grandfather in the locker room," Hernandez said. "I haven't spoken to my family yet, they're my main motivation."

Both Mexico and Uruguay have four points in Group A and meet each other Tuesday in Rustenburg. France and South Africa, both with one point, can still advance. They play Tuesday in Bloemfontein.

In Johannesburg, FIFA said Australia captain Tim Cahill will miss his team's Group D match against Ghana because of the red card he picked up in the opening game. Cahill was sent off for a foul on Bastian Schweinsteiger in the 56th minute of Australia's 4-0 loss to Germany on Sunday.

Off the field, there were more demonstrations at World Cup venues. About 200 stewards in Cape Town were dispersed with rubber bullets and a stun grenade in a labor dispute linked to low pay for World Cup duties.

Police superintendent Andre Traut said seven people were arrested but none injured during the protest outside the stewards' employer's offices.

Police have taken responsibility for stadium security in Cape Town, both Johannesburg venues, and the grounds in Durban and Port Elizabeth since stewards began protests Sunday night.

Jimenez hurls Rockies past Twins

NEW YORK (AP)—Kyle Kendrick kept the New York Yankees guessing, Shane Victorino homered and Placido Polanco made a sprawling catch Thursday night as the Philadelphia Phillies won 7-1.

The Phillies beat Andy Pettitte (8-2) and took two of three. Shortly before the first pitch, the giant videoboard in center field blared highlights from Pettitte's victory over Philadelphia at Yankee Stadium last November in the clinching Game 6 of the World Series.

But this was Kendrick's night, from the moment he struck out leadoff man Derek Jeter. A day after 47-year-old lefty Jamie Moyer's soft tosses bamboozled the Yankees, they had no luck timing the changeups from Kendrick (4-2).

Kendrick gave up four singles in seven innings and left with a 3-1 edge. The Phillies pulled away with a four-run ninth.

Red Sox 8, Diamondbacks 5

At Boston, David Ortiz hit a two-run homer and Marco Scutaro had three RBIs to power Boston to the victory over Arizona.

John Lackey (8-3) pitched six innings as Boston became the only team with three, eight-game winners. The right-hander labored through 112 pitches and earned the win when Adrian Beltre hit an RBI single in the sixth that gave the Red Sox a 5-4 lead.

Arizona extended its club record to 13 straight road losses, a streak that began after a May 17 win at Florida. Dan Haren (7-5) allowed six runs, four earned, and seven hits in 5 2-3 innings.

The Red Sox (40-28) moved a season-high 12 games over .500 with the three-game sweep.

Braves 3, Rays 1

At Atlanta, Jason Heyward homered and Troy Glaus hit a two-run double to back seven strong innings by Tim Hudson in Atlanta's victory over Tampa Bay.

The Braves took two of three games in an interleague matchup of division leaders. They've won four of five overall and 11 of 12 at home to improve to 21-7 at Turner Field.

Hudson (7-2) allowed four hits and lowered his ERA to 2.34. In 11 career starts against Tampa Bay, he is 7-1 with a 2.71 ERA.

Billy Wagner got his 11th save in 13 chances with a perfect ninth.

Mets 6, Indians 4

At Cleveland, R.A. Dickey won his fifth straight start and the Mets stretched their winning streak to seven games.

Jose Reyes had three hits and scored twice for New York. Rookie Ike Davis drove in two runs.

The surging Mets have won 18 of 23 to go from last place to a half-game behind NL East-leading Atlanta. They have six consecutive road wins for the first time since a six-game run in August 2008, and have won a team-record eight in a row in interleague play.

Dickey (5-0) allowed three runs—two earned—and seven hits over six innings. Francisco Rodriguez struck out three in the ninth for his 15th save in 18 chances.

Rockies 5, Twins 1

At Minneapolis, Ubaldo Jimenez pitched eight sparkling innings and the Colorado Rockies beat the Minnesota Twins 5-1 in interleague play on Thursday.

Jimenez allowed one run and eight hits, struck out four and walked two while lowering his ERA to 1.15. At 13-1, he is off to the best start by a pitcher since Roger Clemens went 14-0 in 1986.

Jimenez (13-1) became just the second pitcher in the last 80 years to win at least 13 of his first 14 starts, according to STATS LLC. Clemens went 13-0 in '86 and Lefty Gomez also went 13-1 for the Yankees in 1932.

Francisco Liriano (6-4) took the loss.

Tigers 8, Nationals 3

At Detroit, Jeremy Bonderman threw seven sharp innings, Miguel Cabrera and Alex Avila hit two-run doubles and Detroit earned its sixth consecutive win. Bonderman (3-4) gave up two runs and five hits.

Adam Dunn homered for Washington, and Cristian Guzman went 2 for 4 with an RBI single. Luis Atilano (5-4) gave up five runs and nine hits in 4 1-3 innings.

White Sox 5, Pirates 4

At Pittsburgh, Mark Buehrle allowed two runs over 7 1-3 innings to become the winningest pitcher since interleague play began, and the Chicago White Sox ran the Pittsburgh Pirates' losing streak to 11 games.

Buehrle's 22 victories since interleague play started in 1997 top the 21 each by Mike Mussina and Jamie Moyer. The left-hander's 22-6 record and .786 winning percentage are easily the best of the five pitchers who have won at least 20 games against the opposing league.

Buehrle (5-6) allowed six hits, struck out six and walked one.

With Bobby Jenks pitching the ninth inning for his 13th save in 14 opportunities, the White Sox swept the three-game series and won their seventh in eight games.

Rangers 6, Marlins 4

At Miami, Ian Kinsler drove in three runs, Vladimir Guerrero hit his 15th homer as Texas rallied to complete a three-game sweep of Florida.

Alexi Ogando (2-0) pitched 2 1-3 scoreless innings of relief and collected his first major league hit for Texas, which has won eight of nine. Ogando also got the win in his major league debut.

Neftali Feliz pitched the ninth for his third save of the series and 18th in 20 chances overall.

Cubs 3, Athletics 2

At Chicago, Kosuke Fukudome hit a game-ending RBI single to give Chicago its first series win since late May.

Jerry Blevins (2-1) opened the Cubs ninth by walking Geovany Soto, who went to second on Starlin Castro's sacrifice. After pinch-hitter Koyie Hill was intentionally walked, Ryan Theriot walked to load the bases. On the next pitch, Fukudome singled through a drawn-in infield.

Fukudome, benched recently due to a slump at the plate, also singled to start a tying rally in the eighth.

Oakland pitcher Dallas Braden is 0-4 with a 4.29 ERA since his perfect game against Tampa Bay on May 9.

Royals 5, Astros 2

At Kansas City, Scott Podsednik hit a three-run homer and Anthony Lerew pitched six effective innings, lifting Kansas City over Houston in a game that included a bizarre reversed call by the umpires.

The Royals couldn't take advantage of that ruling in the fifth inning, but scored four runs off Brett Myers (4-5) in the seventh to win for the fifth time in seven games. Yuniesky Betancourt had a run-scoring single in the inning and Podsednik followed with his first homer in 144 at-bats.

Lerew kept the Royals close despite a shaky first inning in his return to the majors. Victor Marte (2-0) worked a scoreless seventh and Joakim Soria earned his 16th save in 18 chances.

Reds 7, Dodgers 1

At Cincinnati, Bronson Arroyo hit the first of Cincinnati's three homers off rookie John Ely, pitched seven innings and was part of three double plays, setting up the victory over Los Angeles.

Arroyo's three-run shot in the second inning made Ely (3-4) double over in disgust. Joey Votto added a two-run homer, and Brandon Phillips had a solo shot.

Semifinals set in IT&E RBC Invitational

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

WALTER J. SUTHERLAND

Guam's Barrigada Basketball Club Crusaders are the top seed in the 17-and-under division going in today's 2010 IT&E Rollers Basketball Club Summer Youth Invitational semifinals.

Thursday marked the start of IT&E Rollers Basketball Club's first Summer Youth Basketball Invitational Tournament, which features 13 teams in three age divisions.

The last couple of days teams have been competing at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium and the playoff semifinals are scheduled to take place this morning from 9am to 2pm at the Northern Marianas College Gymnasium.

After a day's rest, the championship rounds will be held on Monday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium from 9am to 1pm.

RBC commissioner Paul Camacho and G-Rollers head coach Joe Diaz are organizing the maiden event.

Four teams from Guam's Barrigada Basketball Club—all named Crusaders—are participating in the RBC invitational along with some local Unified Basketball Association squads.

The 12-and-under division follows a round-robin format and is made up of two G-Rollers teams and a BBC Crusaders group; the other two divisions are competing in a double-elimination setting.

The 15-and-under division includes two BBC Crusader teams, two G-Rollers teams, and the Sonics. The 17-and-under division comprised of G-Rollers, Sonics, Sparks, Hi-5, and the BBC Crusaders.

The semifinal matchups for the 12-and-under will be between the G-Rollers A team and the G-Rollers B team with the winner to play BBC on Monday.

For the 15-and-under division, the Sonics will play the G-Rollers A team with the winner to play BBC2 on Monday. Two matches in the 17-and-under division will determine who will face the top seeded BBC team for Monday's championship game. The Sparks and the G-Rollers A team will duke it out with the winner to challenge the Sonics for advancement to the finals.

"We would like to thank all of our sponsors, IT&E, EFC Engineers and Architects Corporation for donating $500 used for operating expenses of the tourney, the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs for granting permission to use the three venues for the games, Rep. Ray Tebuteb, George and Brenda Cabrera, and the RBC parents for donating money for the BBC Crusaders' eating expenses, and Hertz for donating a 15-Pac Van for the BBC Crusaders' transportation; Mayor Donald Flores also donated a truck for the BBC's transportation," said RBC commissioner Paul Camacho.

OLD CELTICS

From Page 28

ful," Ray Allen said.

Instead, they finally looked their age Thursday night. Allen's jumper, one of the prettiest and most reliable in the NBA, was flat all night in a 3-for-14 performance.

Paul Pierce was 5 of 15. Kevin Garnett, the other member of the aging Big Three, scored 17 points but managed only three rebounds and couldn't keep Pau Gasol off the backboards.

Pierce and Garnett both bent over with hands on shorts in the fourth quarter, usually a sign of fatigue. A more recognizable sign: Rasheed Wallace, another old guy who was forced to start and play 36 minutes because of Kendrick Perkins' knee injury, had to throw his hand up to ask out of the game when he became winded in the second half.

"He was just trying to figure out a way to stay on the floor," said Rivers, who called the 35-year-old Wallace a "warrior" who was considering retirement.

Rivers said Wallace was battling cramps and strains, which kept him from going inside as he did early in the game.

"We had to keep subbing him for one minute and two minutes, and I thought the reason we got up early was because of Rasheed Wallace," Rivers said. "We got it low in the post, he started scoring, and I thought what happened was late in the game he got tired and had the injuries and we couldn't go down anymore, and I think that had a huge impact on how we were playing. We had to go away from the post almost because of fatigue."

The Celtics led by 13 in the second half with an efficient offense and an even better defense that was frustrating Kobe Bryant. That's what Boston did to get past LeBron James and Cleveland, then defending East champion Orlando in the previous two rounds.

But all those games perhaps took their toll on the Celtics, who simply didn't have the energy down the stretch. They were outrebounded 53-40 and couldn't leap to corral the most important rebound of the game, which Gasol grabbed to retain possession with the Lakers up three and 30 seconds to go.

The Lakers even gameplanned for the Celtics' age.

"With the Boston team obviously I saw Garnett fatigue," coach Phil Jackson said. "And that's been one of the issues we've had all the way through this series, is run him hard and keep running him if you get a chance because fatigue will affect his game."

It was a great run for the Celtics. They just didn't have the legs to finish it.

"We were scratching and clawing, trying to do everything we could to try to pull this out," Allen said. "We had an opportunity to win, but it just didn't go our way down the stretch. I don't think we ran out of steam. Lady Luck just didn't bounce in our corner."

ARTEST

From Page 28

Phil Jackson said. "He brought life to our team, he brought life to the crowd."

Actually, Bryant was the MVP for the second straight year.

The Lakers signed Artest from Houston during the offseason for his defense. They needed his offense in the last game of the season.

As Bryant floundered, Artest took over in the second quarter, scoring 12 points. He keyed their 11-0 run with six points to open the period, giving the Lakers a two-point lead. His 3-pointer tied the game at 29, then he went 3 of 4 from the line to send the Lakers into halftime trailing 40-34.

"My staff was very strongly encouraging Ron because he was the guy with the open looks to step into his shot, be confident and take the one there in rhythm," Jackson said of Artest's tying 3.

When he wasn't scoring, Artest was most effective in the paint.

"I attacked to the basket instead of just shooting threes," he said. "Most closeout games I do OK, but sometimes with elimination I don't play as well and it's frustrating."

He had a quiet third quarter with just two points while the Lakers fell behind by 13, but made his presence known again in the fourth. Artest's three-point play tied the game at 61 before he hit the 3-pointer late.

"For the most part, I didn't see Ron tire out there," Jackson said. "I thought he played with good energy in a game in which he had to play a lot of minutes, and he's played consistent minutes throughout."

As chaos reigned after the final buzzer, a dazed Artest gave a fractured TV interview in which he thanked his psychiatrist ("She really helped me relax a lot") and "everybody in my 'hood" before promoting his latest recording.

Artest had another big moment in these playoffs, rebounding Bryant's missed 3-pointer and making a buzzer-beating layup against Phoenix to win Game 5 of the Western Conference finals.

"I've been thinking about a ring (for a long time)," Artest said. "You know I came here and I didn't make the money that I probably would've made somewhere else."

Tough opening day all around at Pebble Beach

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. (AP)—Pebble Beach looks just as tough as it did 10 years ago for the U.S. Open. It just doesn't have Tiger Woods pushing it around.

A punishing opening round on a picturesque day featured Shaun Micheel and Paul Casey making birdie putts on the 18th hole to share the lead at 2-under 69 with Brendon De Jonge, whose best shot was a wedge he holed for eagle.

Equally memorable was what Woods and Phil Mickelson didn't do. Neither made a single birdie, the first time the world's top two players have ever competed in the same tournament without making one.

"There's a long way to go," Woods said after opening with a 74, five shots out of the lead and one better than Mickelson's 75. "Just keep plugging along and see where I come Sunday afternoon."

It doesn't figure to get any easier—not for Woods, Mickelson, or even the leaders. Even in relatively gentle conditions, only nine players managed to break par.

One thing seemed as clear as the blue sky over the Monterey Peninsula: That 12-under par by Woods a decade ago is safe. If one round was any indication, anything under par might be good enough to win this U.S. Open.

"I'm not thinking about what kind of score might win this golf tournament," Ian Poulter said after a hard-earned 70. "I'm just happy to go out there and play as good as I possibly can. But I will tell you the golf course is difficult. There's not going to be many good scores on it today. And I can't see it getting easier."

De Jonge, a 29-year-old from Zimbabwe playing in his first U.S. Open, holed out with a wedge for eagle on the scary par-5 14th and hit it stiff on the par-3 17th for his round of 69. Casey got away with average iron play by taking only 23 putts.

The average score was 75.25. It was a round that helped put Woods' 15-shot victory in 2000 into perspective. Except for his record score of 12-under par in the last U.S. Open at Pebble, the best anyone else managed was 3-over.

There will be no such runaway this week. After one round, Woods is already eight strokes behind his 2000 pace.

He hit every green Thursday in opening with eight pars—extending his streak to 34 holes without a bogey in a U.S. Open at Pebble Beach—but never gave himself many good looks at birdie. His day ended badly, with a three-putt bogey from the fringe on the 16th, missing an 8-foot birdie on the 17th and laying up in a bunker to take bogey on the 18th for a 3-over 74.

"I hit the ball well enough to shoot a good score," Woods said. "These greens are just awful. They're moving every which way."

Woods never had that problem 10 years ago, making everything inside 8 feet. He is a different player now, playing this U.S. Open under far different circumstances with the turmoil in his personal life. And this golf course has rarely looked so tough in relatively calm conditions.

Mickelson, already with a record five runner-up finishes in this major, hit two balls in the ocean, took two shots to get out of one bunker and missed a half-dozen birdie putts inside 12 feet.

It was his highest opening round in the U.S. Open since 1997, though he was not entirely discouraged.

"There's no way under par is going to win here, I don't believe," Mickelson said. "I think over par will win. Because of that, I'm right there. But I need to play well. I need to putt well, score well. I've just got to get sharp on the greens."

Mike Weir chipped in for a bonus birdie on the 16th to reach 3-under, only to bogey the final two holes and settle for a 70, leaving him in a group of international players that included Poulter of England, 18-year-old Ryo Ishikawa of Japan, K.J. Choi of South Korea, Alex Cejka of Germany and Rafael Cabrera-Bello of Argentina, who had Visa trouble even getting into the country for his first U.S. Open.

Dustin Johnson, the back-to-back winner of the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am in February when the turf is soggy and only two rounds are played at Pebble, was among those at even-par 71. His round was derailed by a four-putt double bogey on the 14th.

That was only one of several miscues:

■ Aaron Baddeley thought he had an ace on the 17th when his shot caught the lip. He four-putted for a double bogey.

■ John Rollins was tied for the lead at 2 under when he put his tee shot into the rough at the far end of the hourglass green. He shanked his chip toward the 18th tee, left his third shot in the gnarly rough and wound up with a triple bogey.

■ Morgan Hoffmann of Oklahoma State was at even par, a remarkable performance for a college kid in his first U.S. Open. But he hit two balls into the ocean on the 18th—the first one on a ricochet off the tree in the middle of the fairway—and took a quadruple-bogey 9.

"My favorite hole on the golf course," Hoffmann said. "I was looking forward to it all day."

Lee Westwood, the No. 3 player in the world who has a second and two tied-for-thirds in the last three majors, had a 74. He played with Woods and Ernie Els, who had a 73.

At first glance, the course seemed benign, especially with only a freshening breeze that picks up along the coastal holes. But it looked frightening with a club in hand. The fairways were particularly fast, the greens so firm that balls would bounce as high as six feet in the air upon landing.

"It looks like it's wide-open fairway, but in the teeing ground ... you look right, look left, either way is very tough," Choi said. "And you can't stop in the bouncing, so you're very scared on the tee shot."

CNMI women promise tougher stand

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Women's National Team vowed to put up a tougher stand this time against Guam when they square off today in the 4th Annual Marianas Football Cup.

Game time is at 2pm at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

The CNMI female strikers went scoreless against Guam in the first three outings for the Cup. Guam won the inaugural Marianas Cup in 2007, thrashing the CNMI in its home turf, 7-0. When Saipan hosted the Cup in 2008, the CNMI forced a scoreless draw, and then last year, Guam walked away with another easy win in the third edition of the annual event, 8-0.

In their fourth encounter, Guam will be facing a much improved CNMI, as the former had been battle tested after competing in two international tournaments and training rigorously for the Marianas Cup.

"The women's team has many returning players with international experience from our matches in Japan and Taiwan in August last year. This experience in playing competitive matches will help us play mentally and physically tough as a team. Also, we've been training three days a week and I'm proud to see the progress we've made in such a short time," team captain Carrie Knight said.

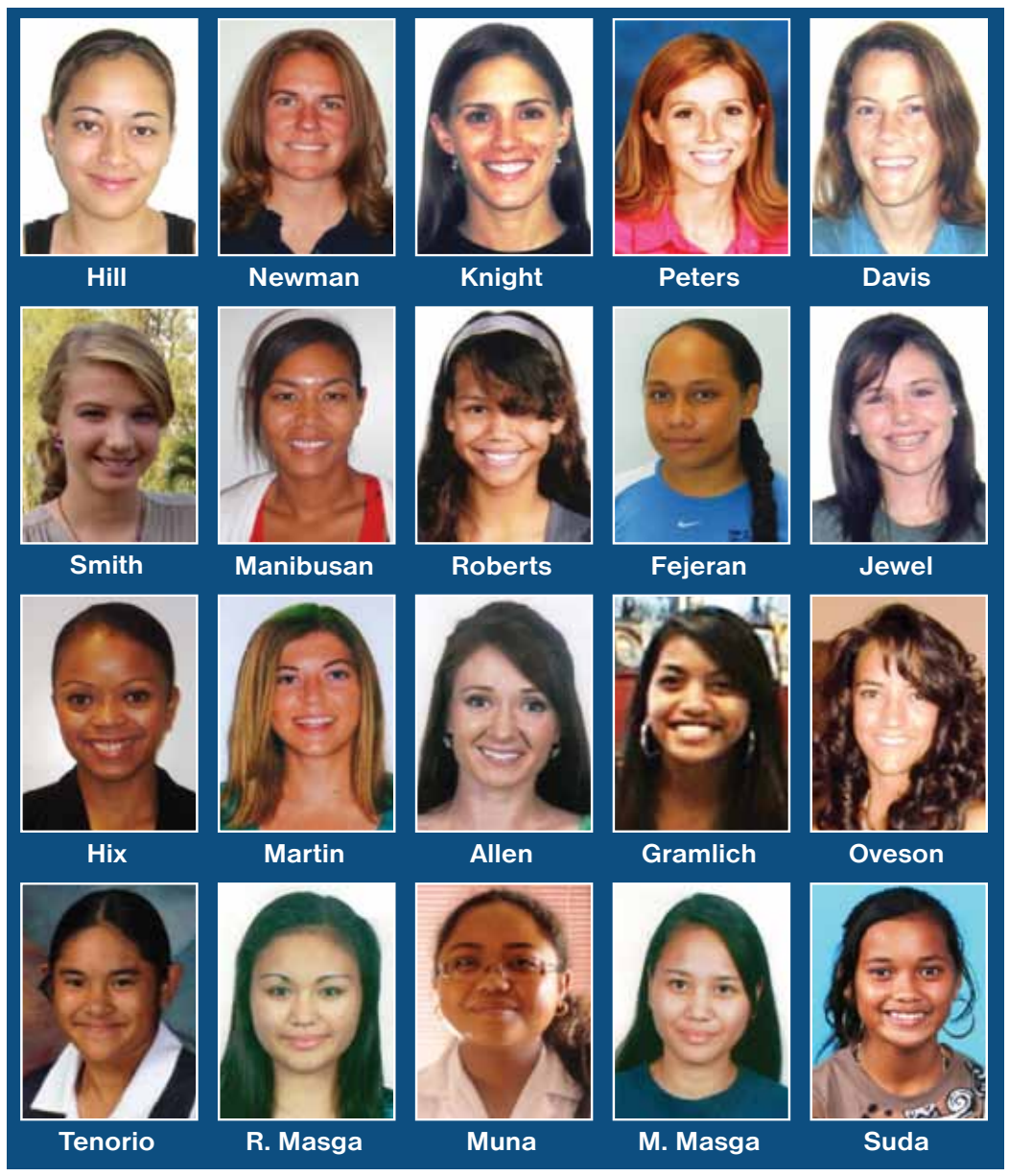
Knight recorded the CNMI's first international goal when she scored in the team's 1-5 loss to Guam in the East Asian Football Federation Women's Football Championship 2010 Semifinals Competition at the Tainan County Stadium, in Tainan County, Taiwan last year.

Besides Knight, other returnees for the CNMI are Natalie Hill, Madison Smith, Linday Davis, Amanda Allen Zoe Jewell, Brianna Martin, Elisa Fejeran, Michiko Tenorio, Amber Roberts, and Rebecca Newman.

The team will be without veterans Patricia Coleman, Brenda Schultz, and Emily Gries-Maxberry. Schultz had already left the island, Coleman could not make it to the tryouts, and Gries is injured.

Replacing them are youth players Rachel and Michelle Masga, Corina Suda, Maryana Gramlich, Juliana Muna, Lakell Villegas, and Lynique Oveson, and women's league veterans Anna Manibusan and Nola Hix.

Knight said having youth players on the squad is good news for CNMI football.



"As football continues to grow on Saipan, we encourage younger players to come tryout for the national teams. It's great exercise and experience, especially when you have a Japanese coach with such an impressive football background," she said.

Knight is counting on the support of the local crowd when they face Guam and hope to end the visitor's dominance in the Marianas Cup.

"We appreciate your support in cheering us on. Come see the greenest pitch on Saipan this afternoon," she said.

Knight and crew will be facing the 21 players Guam listed on its rosters for the Marianas Cup. The list include Rhoda Bamba, Jannel Banks, Jena Cruz, Hikaru Minato, Tiana Piper, Arisa Recella, Demi-Rose, Isabella, and Victoria Shimizu, Regina Shiroma, Tonijonay Tedpahogo, Heather and Kristin Thompson, Tatyana Ungacta, Simone Willter, Heather Zimmerman, Felicia Alumbaugh, Nieves Cabreza, Brandee Lima, Brandi Potter, and Paige Surber.

LAKERS

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think we did this as a team," Artest said. "We fought together. This was one of the best games in, I don't even know, man. I don't want to be in a game like this, where the game can go either way. ... I'm just like, OK, what did I get myself into?"

He might be into a budding dynasty, with most of the Lakers' core locked into long-term contracts. With their fifth title in 11 seasons, the Lakers moved one championship behind Boston's 17 titles for the overall NBA lead.

After downplaying the NBA's best rivalry for two weeks, Bryant acknowledged this banner will loom just a little larger than the rest in those Staples Center rafters, given the opponent, the Game 7 stakes and the history they just made. The teams have met in 12 NBA finals, but the Lakers won for just the third time.

Jackson won his fifth ring in Los Angeles to go with his half-dozen from Chicago. And it might be the last: Weary of the regular-season grind and facing a likely pay cut with the Lakers, Jackson hasn't determined his future, though he previously said another title would make him more likely to chase an unprecedented fourth threepeat next season, when he'll be 65.

"I've got to take a deep breath. I've got to take some time to think about this," Jackson said, wearing a satisfied grin underneath his championship hat. "This was great. I'll wait to make that decision in a week."

With his hands already full, maybe Jackson will follow Russell's lead and put that 11th championship ring on a chain around his neck—and Bryant isn't likely to settle for just one handful of rings.

He made that clear to his coach.

"He knows how bad I want him back," Bryant said. "I've been openly blunt about how much I want him back."

Paul Pierce had 18 points and 10 rebounds for the Celtics, who just couldn't finish the final quarter of a remarkable playoff run after a fourth-place finish in the Eastern Conference. Kevin Garnett added 17 points and Rasheed Wallace had 11 before tiring while starting in place of injured center Kendrick Perkins, but Boston flopped in two chances to clinch the series in Los Angeles after winning Game 5 back home.

"Listen, give the Lakers credit," Celtics coach Doc Rivers said. "They were terrific."

Rivers knows changes are coming, even saying afterward that the '10-11 Celtics will be different than the '09-10 team.

"We were the tightest, most emotional, crazy group I've ever been around in my life," Rivers said, adding that he'll wait a while before deciding on his oft-speculated future.

He called this team "crazy close" and throughout the playoffs, the Celtics only got closer. Down by 14 in their first playoff game against Miami, they won that night and rode that instant burst of confidence not only past the Heat, but through Cleveland and Orlando in the next two rounds.

"We were scratching and clawing, trying to do everything we could to try to pull this out," said Ray Allen, who had 13 points on 3-of-14 shooting. "We had an opportunity to win, but it just didn't go our way down the stretch. I don't think we ran out of steam. Lady Luck just didn't bounce in our corner. ... There were a lot of tears, a lot of tears."

The Celtics were a .500 team for the final two-thirds of the season, prompting many to wonder if they could turn it back on for the playoffs. That question was answered long ago. Yes, they could—and one or two more stops on Thursday, they'd have won an 18th title.

"There's a lot of crying in that locker room," Rivers said. "A lot of people who care. I don't think there was a dry eye. A lot of hugs, a lot of people feeling awful. That's a good thing. Showed a lot of people cared."

The Celtics had never lost a seventh game in the finals. Despite nursing a lead through most of the night while holding the Lakers to ridiculously low shooting percentages until the final minutes, Boston couldn't close it out on the coast, becoming just the seventh team to blow a 3-2 finals lead after winning Game 5.

The Lakers tied it at 61 on Artest's three-point play with 7:29 left, and Bryant's free throws 90 seconds later gave the Lakers their first lead of the second half. The Lakers forged ahead by five points before Bryant and Sasha Vujacic hit free throws in the final seconds to keep Los Angeles ahead by at least two points on every possession.

Bryant said he had to downplay the magnitude of the rivalry during the series, but he came clean on the podium with his daughters, Natalia and Gianna.

"I was just lying to you guys," Bryant said. "When you're in the moment, you have to suppress that ... but you guys know what a student I am of the game. I know every series the Lakers have played in, and I know every Celtics series. I know every statistic. It meant the world to me, but I couldn't focus on that. I had to focus on playing."

Bryant wasn't at his best in Game 7, saying he "was on E ... really, really tired" after 23 playoff games with a litany of injuries. Didn't matter—he still captured the finals MVP award, after averaging 28.6 points in the series.

He's won three straight crowns before, and is already eyeing another three-peat try.

"Let's go for it again," Bryant said, moments before hoisting the finals MVP trophy.

The Lakers will hold a parade Monday, with the team riding floats from Staples Center down Figueroa Street to the USC campus in downtown Los Angeles. A rally at the Coliseum last year attracted 95,000 fans, but the Lakers are skipping the arena in favor of a more interactive celebration, the team said.

Exactly two years to the day after Boston beat the Lakers by 39 points to clinch the 2008 title, Los Angeles got revenge for perhaps the most embarrassing loss of Bryant's career—even if he did little more than grab 15 rebounds for most of the night.

The Celtics had much more poise from the opening tip in Game 7, playing vicious defense that forced Los Angeles to miss 21 of its first 27 shots. Bryant and Gasol were a combined 6 for 26 in the first half.

But forget how it looked early on, because history will. Bryant even did something Jerry West and Magic Johnson never could: He beat the hated Celtics in Game 7 of the finals.

The Lakers are the first team to rally from a 3-2 deficit to win a finals since Houston did it in 1994, beating the New York Knicks. Although Los Angeles stumbled to the brink of elimination for the first time in these playoffs last weekend in Boston, Bryant's teams still are spectacular finishers: They've closed out their playoff opponents on the first try 10 times while winning three straight Western Conference titles over the last three years.

Mama Shirley Memorial Cup starts today

The Inaugural Mama Shirley Memorial Cup will kick off today with Pacific Islands Club Saipan and Team Justice of Guam playing in a best-of-three series.

Game 1 is set for 4pm today, while Game 2 is scheduled for 11am tomorrow. Game 3, if necessary, is slated at 5pm. All matches will be played at the JP Center Basketball Court.

PIC is the champion in the 2nd Annual Shirley's Coffee Shop Invitational Basketball League, besting 14 other teams, while Team Justice ruled the 10th edition of the Shirley's Guam caging, prevailing against 21 other squads.

The Mama Shirley Memorial Cup is being held in honor of Shirley Lai, the woman behind Shirley's Coffee shop who passed away late last year. A perpetual trophy will be awarded to the winner of the Mama Shirley Memorial Cup and next year organizers are planning to bring the event to Guam.

Basketball fans are invited to watch the weekend games and witness Saipan players challenge their Guam counterparts. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo)***

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Lakers win 16th NBA title

» Edge rivals Celtics in Game 7

By GREG BEACHAM
AP SPORTS WRITER

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Purple and gold confetti raining down upon him, Kobe Bryant hopped up on the scorer's table, shook his fists and extended five fingers.

When he hopped down, Boston's legendary Hall of Fame center Bill Russell was waiting to shake his hand.

A Game 7 classic—and this time, it finally went the Lakers' way.

Bryant, the finals MVP, scored 23 points despite 6-of-24 shooting, and the Lakers won their 16th NBA championship Thursday night, dramatically rallying from a fourth-quarter deficit to beat the Celtics 83-79 in Game 7 of the NBA finals.

Bryant earned his fifth title with the Lakers, who repeated as NBA champions for the first time since winning three straight from 2000-02. Coach Phil Jackson added his 11th, matching Russell's total and possibly putting a cap on his remarkable career if he decides to leave the Lakers.

"This one is by far the sweetest, because it's them," Bryant said after the Lakers beat Boston for the first time in a Game 7. "This was the hardest one by far. I wanted it so bad, and sometimes when you want it so bad, it slips away from you. My guys picked me up."

Ron Artest added 20 points for the Lakers, who didn't exactly show a champion's poise while making just 21 shots in the first three quarters, even hovering around 50 percent at the free throw line. Los Angeles finished with just 32.5 percent shooting.

Yet with Bryant driving the lane to earn eight free throws and Pau Gasol finally coming alive with nine of his 19 points in the fourth quarter, Los Angeles reclaimed the lead midway through and hung on with a few more big shots from Gasol, who had 18 rebounds, and a remarkable clutch performance by Artest, a first-time champion as the only newcomer to last season's roster.

"I had 20 points, and I still

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AP

The Los Angeles Lakers celebrate winning the NBA basketball championship 83-79 against the Boston Celtics Thursday, in Los Angeles.

Old Celtics run out of gas before the finish

By BRIAN MAHONEY
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Those old guys ran out of gas just short of the finish line.

The Boston Celtics nearly pulled off an improbable championship, leading most of the way against the Los Angeles Lakers in Game 7 of the NBA finals on Thursday night before losing 83-79.

They wasted a superb defensive effort when their offense stalled midway through the fourth quarter. Boston went without a field goal for nearly five minutes, a decisive stretch when Los Angeles grabbed control.

"You know, it's the first time all year that you can actually say at the end of the day we were old at the end of the game because we didn't have enough bodies," Celtics coach Doc Rivers said. "I thought it hurt us."

It was nearly an 18th title for the league's most decorated team, and perhaps its most unlikely. The Celtics were the No. 4 seed in the Eastern Conference after playing .500 ball over the second half of the season and were dismissed as too old to compete for a championship.

"We had so much adversity. That's why putting ourselves in a situation to do this would have been miraculous for us. It would have been wonder-

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Boston Celtics forward Kevin Garnett and Rasheed Wallace, bottom, react as Wallace fouled out late in the second half of Game 7 of the NBA basketball finals against the Los Angeles Lakers Thursday, June 17, 2010, in Los Angeles.

AP

AP

Los Angeles Lakers forward Ron Artest reacts after the Lakers beat the Boston Celtics 83-79 in Game 7 of the NBA basketball finals Thursday, June 17, 2010, in Los Angeles.

Artest comes up big for Lakers in Game 7 win

By BETH HARRIS
AP SPORTS WRITER

LOS ANGELES (AP)—No one's blaming Ron Artest this time.

The new guy who said it would be his fault if the Los Angeles Lakers didn't repeat as NBA champions is off the hook.

They defeated the Boston Celtics 83-79 in Game 7 on Thursday night to win their 16th championship, helped greatly by Artest. He had 20 points on 7 of 18 shooting, five steals and five rebounds in the decisive game of his first season with the team.

"Finally I get the ring," he said, boxed into a corner of the locker room, a champagne haze in the air and members of his family pushing their way toward him.

On a night when Kobe Bryant couldn't find the basket, the superstar trusted the guy with the reputation for being a flake. Artest hit a huge 3-pointer with a minute to play on an assist from Bryant, keeping the Lakers ahead 79-73.

"He had too much of an impact on the game," Boston's Ray Allen said.

Soon, Artest and Bryant were jumping into each other's arms in celebration, a season after they had tangled on opposite teams in the playoffs.

"Ron Artest was the most valuable player," Lakers coach

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